

# Wrestling

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF WRESTLING

MONTHLY

DECEMBER 73

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45p.

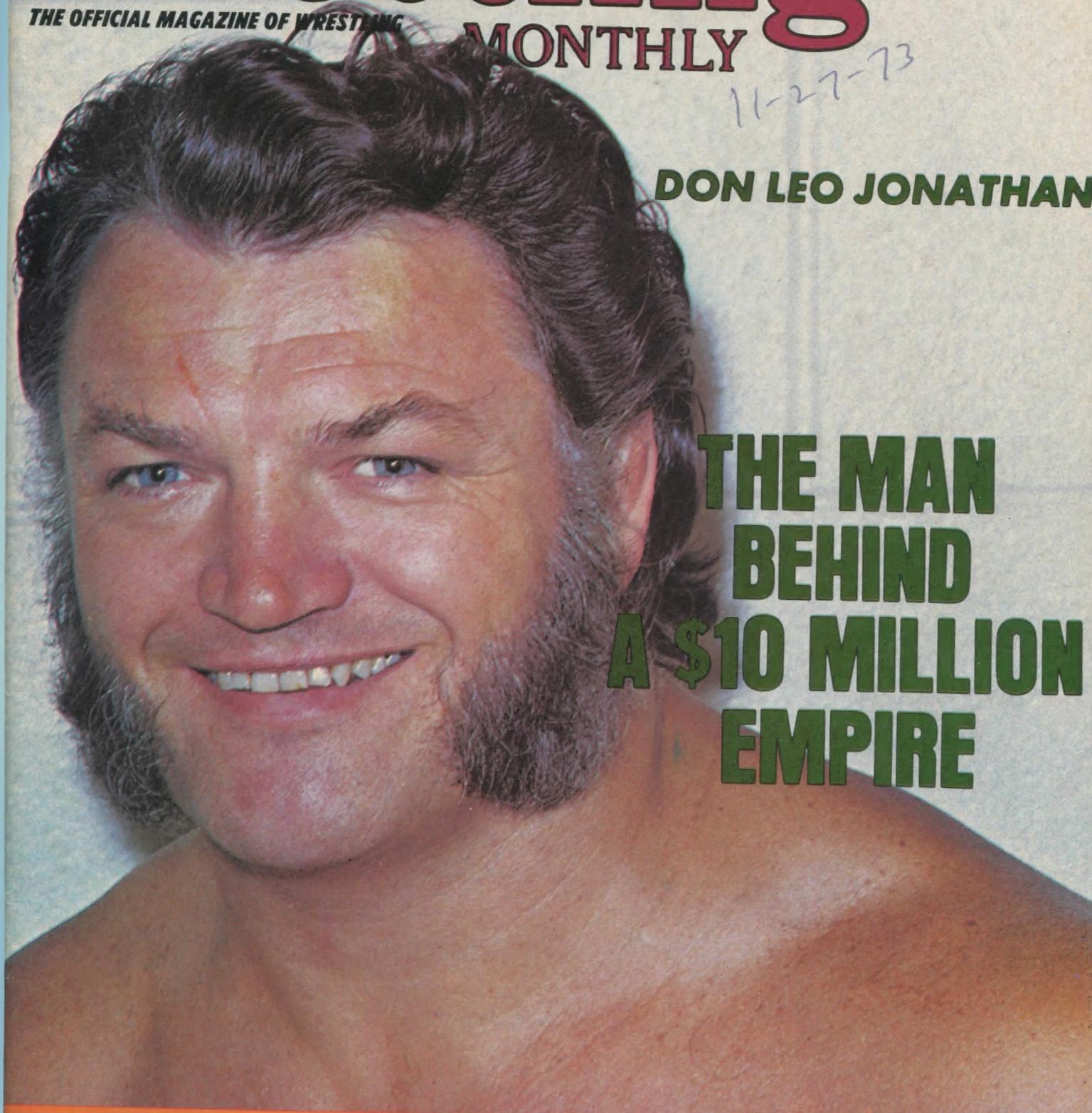
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DON LEO JONATHAN

THE MAN  
BEHIND  
A \$10 MILLION  
EMPIRE



THE TRUTH BEHIND  
THIS BIZARRE CRAVING

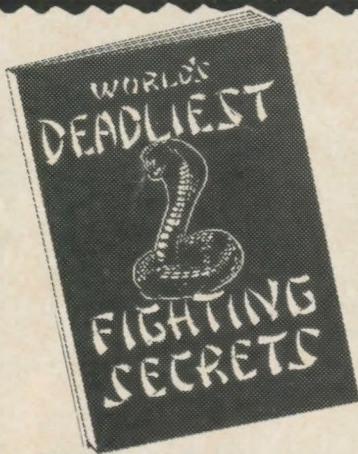
WOMEN DO WRESTLE BEARS



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# Wrestling

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF WRESTLING

## MONTHLY

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### IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

Our January issue will feature Japanese great Mitsu Arakawa and the wrestler-truck drivin' man Bull Bullinski. We'll be taking a look at young John L. Sullivan and with a name like that he has to have a good future. . . Add to that our regular features such as Voice of the Wrestling fans. . . British Mat News . . . and Gosspin's to a Finish . . . and you can see we can hardly go wrong with a lineup like that one. We hope you enjoy it. . .



VOLUME 3 NUMBER 11, DECEMBER 1973

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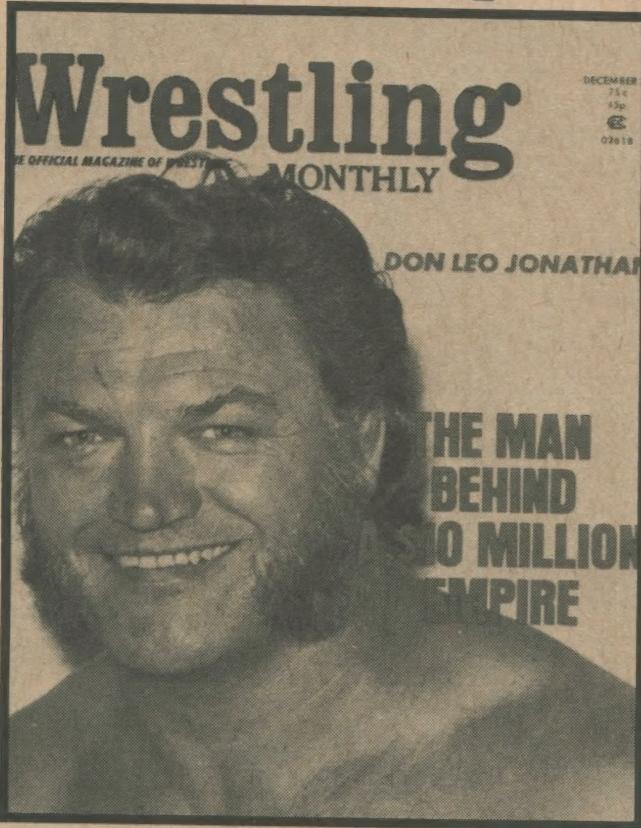
**Gilles Morin**

WRESTLING MONTHLY is not responsible for loss or return of unsolicited manuscripts or photographs. It is suggested that contributing authors first submit a story outline rather than the completed manuscript plus return postage.

Due to the tremendous volume of mail that we receive we can no longer give personal answers to inquiries. In the future we will simply select the most significant questions and answer them in our reader's columns in WRESTLING MONTHLY and WRESTLING REVUE.

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# readers forum

## CHAMP WITHOUT BELT

Dear Sirs:

When are you going to have an article on Ronnie Garvin. He has already defeated Eddie Graham, Bearcat Wright, Louie Tillet, Bobby Shane, The Pro, Tim Woods, Ron Fuller, Jerry Brisco, Johnny Walker, Bob Roop, and if this list isn't enough, he has defeated Jack Brisco three times.

So watch out Jack, it's only a matter of time before Ronnie Garvin defeats you and is World Champion.

So let's have an article on Ronnie Garvin, the one Universal World Champion. Ronnie doesn't hold a belt now but the fans know Ronnie is the real champ, why don't you!!!

Lou Chamberlain,  
Coconut Creek, Fla.

## LOYAL SUPPORT

Dear Sirs:

I have been a wrestling fan all my life and I have bought wrestling magazines every month for the past five years. But I'm very unhappy with them now.

All I can read about is Morales, Terry and Dory Funk, Jack Brisco and other so called great wrestlers. Why have you never had a story on the greatest wrestler of all — RED BASTIEN? And I do belong to his fan club but I would certainly like to read about him in your fan magazines.

Sylvia Miles,  
Gainesville, Texas

**Editor's Note — Red Bastien will no doubt be appreciative of your loyal support. WRESTLING MONTHLY has not deliberately ignored the Red and don't be surprised in the next few issues if you see a feature story on Bastien.**

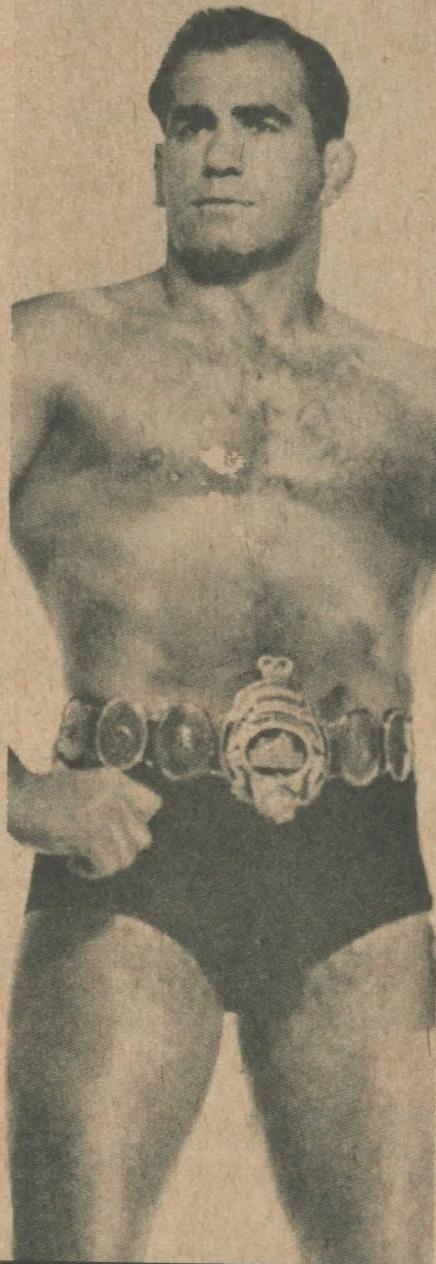
## FOUR TIMES CHAMPION

Dear Sir:

Will Lou Thesz, in my book the greatest wrestler of all time, finally stay retired? How many times did he win the world's championship.

Bobby Logan,  
Huntsville, Ala.

**Editor's Note — Thesz retired in 1966 and from all indications he will continue to enjoy the life of a country squire. Lou was champion four sepa-**



**Lou Thesz was truly a classic world's heavyweight champion in his prime and must go down in mat history as comparable to Joe Stecher, Strangler Lewis, and Jim Londos among others.**

rate times, first winning the title from Everett Marshall, Dec. 29, 1937. After losing the title to Bronko Nagurski in 1939, Thesz beat Wild Bill Longson on July 20, 1948 and lost it to Dick Hutton on Nov. 14, 1957. The Hungarian won it again, beating Buddy Rogers, Jan. 24, 1963 and lost it for the last time to Gene Kiniski, Jan. 21, 1966.

## RECOGNITION, PLEASE

Dear Sir:

I would appreciate seeing more about Chief Jay Strongbow in your great wrestling magazine. He is as good as any wrestler in the game, and nobody seems to care. He is the most under-rated, unknown wrestler of his caliber. I also think a title match with Pedro Morales is way overdo for Strongbow. The Chief wrestles primarily in the New York area with some appearances in Boston. Of the fans in this area who see the Chief regularly, the majority favors Strongbow for Champ. (Morales also does a lot of wrestling in this area.) Pedro is over-rated, because he is the W.W.W.F. champ, by many people who rarely see him. Strongbow has turned away many of Morales' foes also. This is reason why I think Jay should get his recognition. And with enough recognition, it makes a Strongbow-Morales bout a lot more possible.

David Simon  
East Meadow  
New York

## INTERESTING AND TOUCHING

Dear Sirs:

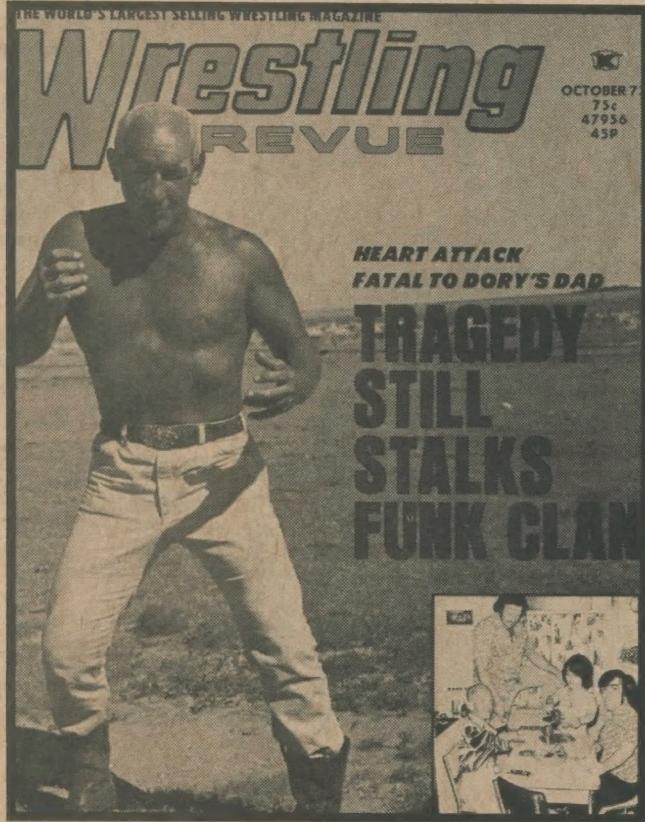
I never used to read either Wrestling Revue or Wrestling Monthly. I now realize how wrong I was.

I was used to the magazines who fill their pages with sensationalistic stories that have little basis to actual happenings. Your stories do not make wrestling seem like a sport with a bunch of bloodthirsty savages.

However, you bring out interesting and touching stories about the people who make wrestling great. Keep up the good work, and please don't fill the pages with what belongs in trash cans (garbage).

David Lopatin,  
Baltimore, Md.

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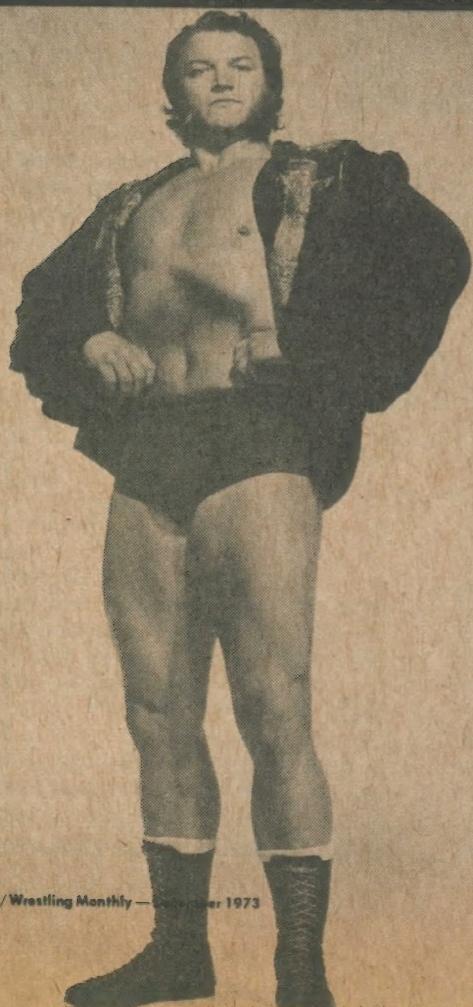
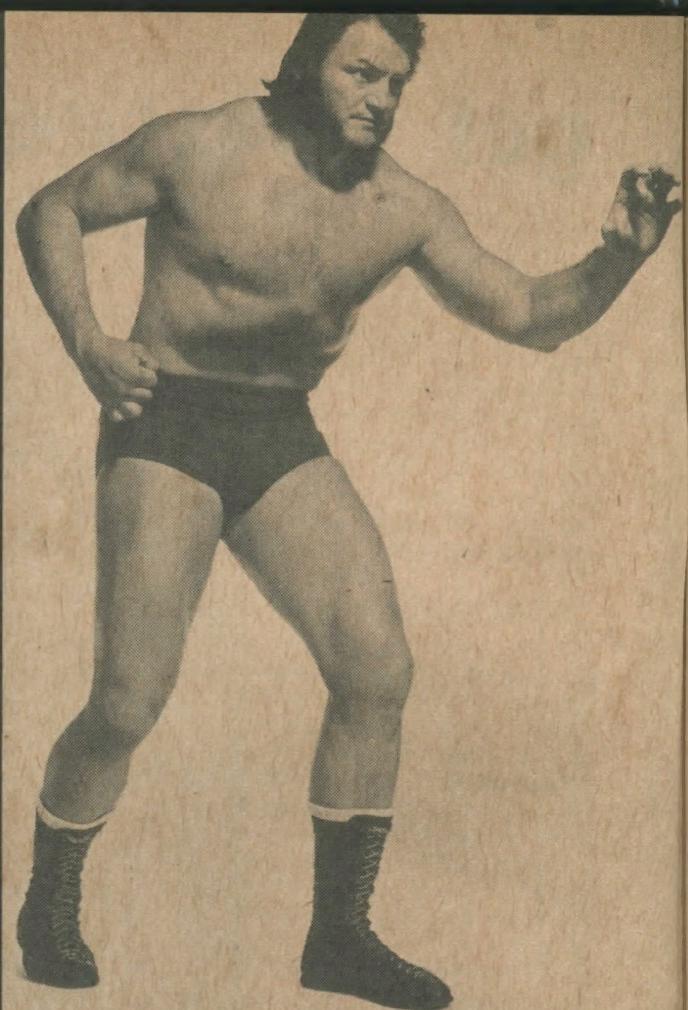
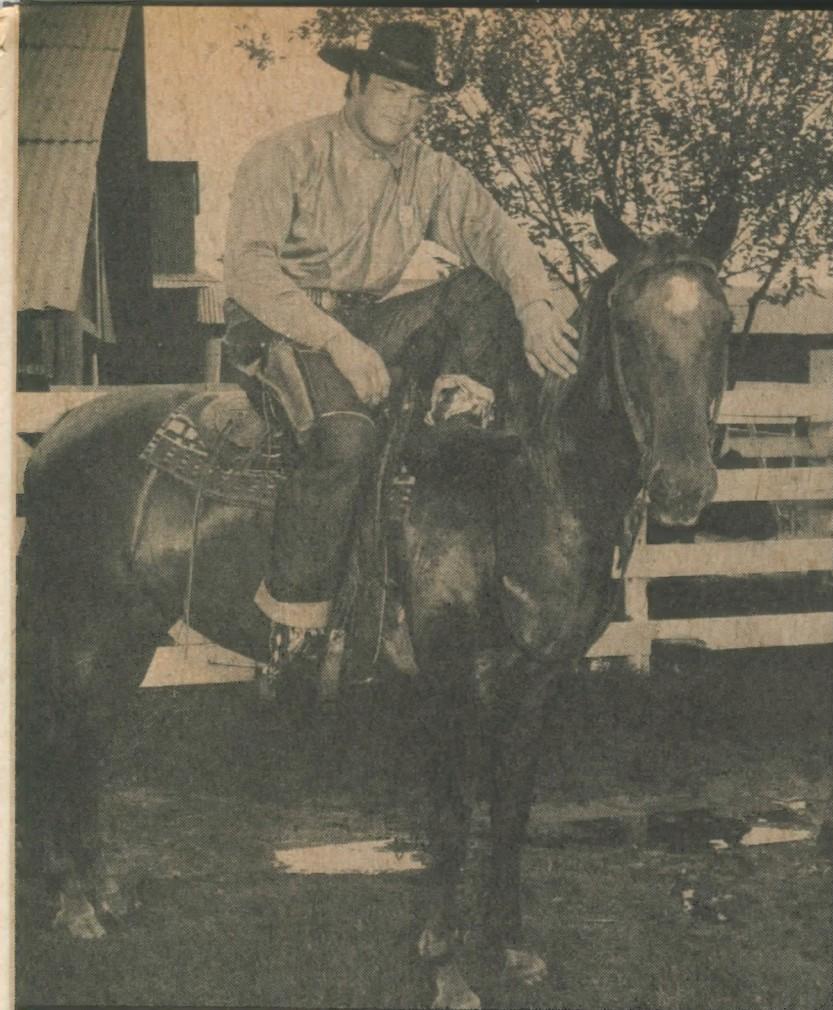
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# Don Leo Jonathan and Jacques Cousteau share common interest but it's not in wrestling

by GEORGE McCARTHER

The sound of thrashing water off the coast of Seattle had brought the crew and divers to the side of the ship.

Amid swirling waters there was something eerily coming to the surface.

"What the hell is happening" one sailor shouted. That's an octopus trying to pull Leo under."

On the surface of the water it seemed as if the huge denizen of the deep was in the process of doing just that. Of course anyone knowing Don Leo Jonathan would have to know the situation was not only well in hand but in all probability it was instigated by the giant Mormon who nature has blessed with the courage strength of more than the average man and the strength courage of thousands.

Unfortunately for the particular marine mollusk he had ventured into Don Leo's path and now all 100 pounds plus and an enormous twenty two foot tenacle span was a potential menu item. I asked Leo what he did with the octopus once he had subdued him and in his usual slow drawl and dry wit, answered:

"I ate him", Don Leo laughed.

The big fellow, features contorted and beads of perspiration dancing off his body, jumped down from the ring.

A crescendo of humanity vociferously rose across the expanse of the arena... the vocal explosion carrying a balance of acclam and disapproval.

Don Leo Jonathan had just

erased another opponent, winding up a one hour match in frenzied fury of twisting muscles and ultimately emerging as the victor with a punishing reverse cradle.

For the legions of Jonathan's fervent followers it was a beautiful night. For the dissenters of the Mormon heavyweight it is another frustrating night.

Don Leo finally reaches the grey confines of his dressing room with his massive back wearing a slight tinge of crimson from the mild slaps of well wishers.

This 300-pound giant (he's six foot, six) drops heavily on a stool and throws a glittering silk robe around his barn-door shoulders.

Jonathan lights up a panatela cigar and draw deeply with the smoke swirling in his lungs seemingly invigorating the body that only moments ago appeared bent on exhaustion.

"Well, I guess this match was a perfect example — you can please all of the people some of the time but you can't please some of the people all of the time."

Laughter creased his expressive features and Don Leo excused himself to the shower.

When Jonathan goes to work before 10,000 wild-eyed, screaming mat addicts you can't help wondering what percentage really knows the ingredients of this mountain that walks like a man.

Don Leo is a multi-talented gentleman who considers his spectacular wrestling career both a vocation and an avocation.

If Jonathan never answered another ring bell, he wouldn't have to worry about the butcher and the baker. Yet whether he would be completely happy without the nomadic excitement of the mat is highly questionable.

"I've already retired twice before but something keeps bringing me back and it isn't just the money," Don Leo explained.



Don Leo relaxes with a rubdown.

The 42-year old athlete was born in a small town with the unlikely name of Hurricane, Utah, 300 miles south of Salt Lake City.

Perhaps the name Hurricane was prophetic in the case of Jonathan because that is just what the man becomes when he goes all out to subdue an opponent in the ring.

As a Mormon, he is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Don Leo's ancestors participated in the great Mormon trek westward under Brigham Young.

In the Mormon faith, everyone participates in some manner. As a teen-ager, Don Leo had his own Sunday School class and while he is an ordained priest and teacher, Jonathan is not an Elder.

The heavyweight super star modestly points out that other Mormons have done far more than he has contributed.

"My grandfather, for example, opened the Mormon mission effort in Australia and then was transferred back home. Perhaps in an administrative oversight, he never relinquished his mission.

"The purpose of the Mormon mission is to make their beliefs known to as many people as possible. There is no "hard sell" converting."

Don Leo's family moved to New Harmony while he was still a child and Jonathan remembers "attending schoolin" in one



Jonathan is giving Mad Dog Vachon the full treatment with a punishing headlock.

of those old time two room school houses." There was one room for the lower grades and one for the higher grades.

From the time he was five until his 21st birthday, Don Leo always knew and enjoyed the outdoors life.

"I worked in my father's sawmill as a lumberjack in Colorado. On my father's side, the family was composed of ranchers, sawmill operators and farmers while on my mother's side they were strictly. I spent a lot of time on the ranch and loved every minute of it."

Jonathan was a cinch to be an athlete — practically everybody in the family participated in sports.

"My father wrestled profes-

## ***Don Leo's life and mat career carved out of rich Mormon family heritage***



Don Leo is always patient and cooperative with his fans.

sionally as Brother Jonathan and he taught me much of what I know today. My mother was a distance runner and I have seven brothers and one sister.

You name it in sports and my family did it. My brothers all were involved in football, boxing and wrestling and my sister — she's six feet tall, was an excellent player in basketball, softball and track. You might say this was the pattern of life in small towns — not only out west but everywhere."

During his varied career, Jonathan was once the sheriff of Washington City, Utah in the early 1950's.

"In Washington City, it seemed we were always chasing people who committed crimes in Nevada, eluded police and then crossed Arizona and came to Utah. No, I'm not a quick draw man with a gun but I did win the fast draw competition for double action pistols in Texas in 1967," Jonathan recalled.

Don Leo has matured into a solidly built wrestler who asks nor gives no quarter to an opponent. There was never any question that Jonathan would be a super-sized heavyweight.

"When I turned 18 I weighed 212 pounds and would you believe that six months later, I weighed 256 pounds. I joined the U.S. Navy and became a fire arms specialists in the Korean War. That's when I gained the extra weight but fortunately, I put it all on in the right places."

Under his father's tutelage, Don Leo developed rapidly as a wrestler and finally turned pro at 19. He won his first match-for-money on August 3, 1950 at Marysville, Calif., and now 23 years later Jonathan is still going strong.

The demands of pro wrestling have Don Leo constantly on the move but he has had time to establish a permanent home for his family in Vancouver, B.C.

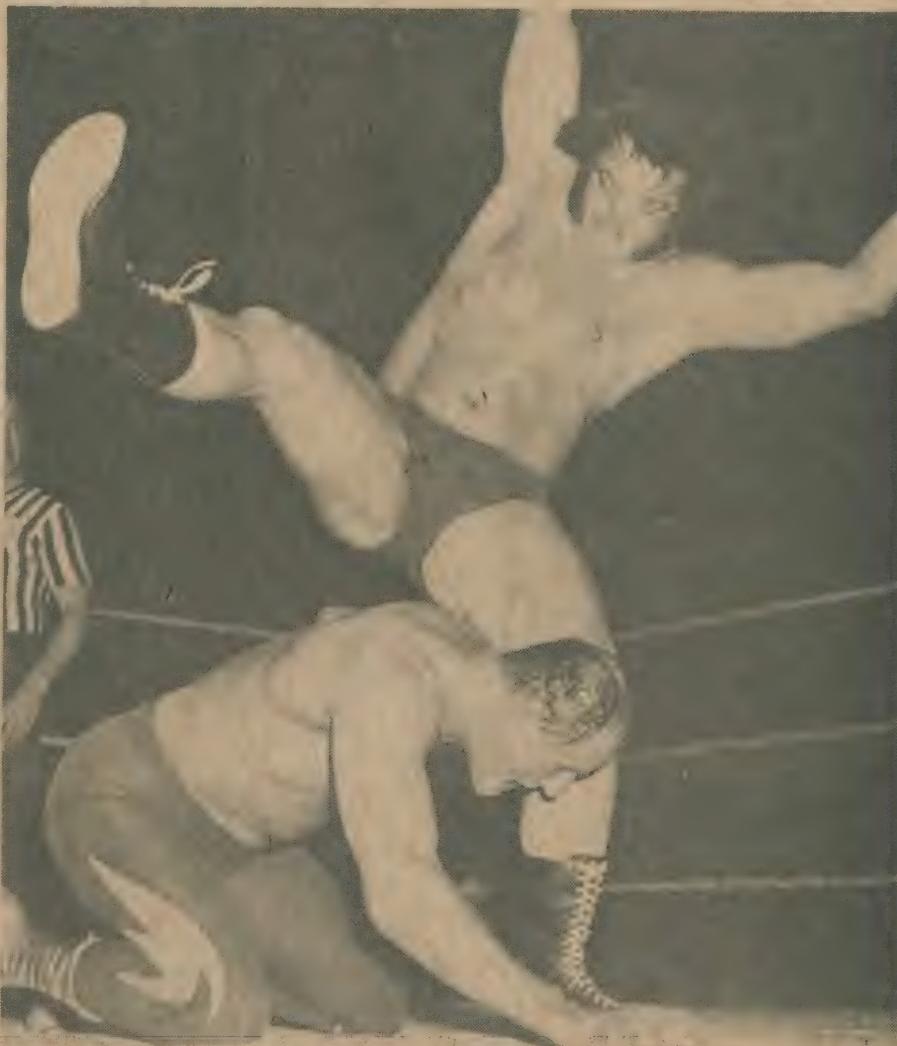
Married in 1961, Don Leo and Rosalie Jonathan have three children — Rodonna, 10, and sons, Don Michael eight, and Jeffrey Leo, six.

"I love the climate and the environment of Vancouver. It's a big city that's growing every year. And of course, that's where I have my other business."

Jonathan's "other business is commercial sea diving, oper-



Jonathan and Kowalski seem to be enjoying a good laugh out of the ring together.



The Mormon giant goes all out in battering Killer Kowalski to the canvas.

ating in northern Vancouver under the name Canadian Diving Services Ltd.

Don Leo's charter is a subsidiary of a world-wide commercial diving conglomerate with offices in 14 different countries.

"Our main headquarters are in Houston, but we'll go wherever our services are needed."

Jonathan proudly reports the firm grossed over 10 million dollars in 1972 and supplied 47% of the diving services in off-shore drilling around the world.

"I guess you could say that's big business," Don Leo, who is a director and shareholder, smiled.

The Canadian company was involved in the first off-shore ex-

ploration in British Columbia and the first on the Grand Banks of Newfoundland.

"Our firm has made a number of innovations in deep sea diving including the development of 'Oceanear 100', a skilfully designed habitat for living and working 1,000 feet beneath the ocean surface," Don Leo explained.

One of the big thrills in Jonathan's life wasn't involved with wrestling. Last year he met world famous French deep sea explorer Jacques Cousteau in Seattle.

"Cousteau's subs were docked there while being overhauled prior to making that epic film on the life of octopus," he related.

Don Leo's an avid camera

***"Our firm  
has developed  
a habitat  
for working  
1,000 feet beneath  
the ocean"***



Jonathan gives the victory sign after defeating Vachon in Montreal.

buff — both still and movies — and has worked for the National Film Board of Canada in an earlier filming on the life of octopus.

"I spent three days with Cousteau and we exchanged ideas on the craft of making films beneath the sea. There is no question in my mind but the man is a genius. And despite his size, he is really a rugged individual."

Jonathan also likes scuba diving as a hobby but hasn't had much time for it in recent months. Don Leo also is a gourmet and one of his favorite foods is caribou meat — or steaks if you will.

"Diving — like wrestling requires a man to be in top flight condition so when I do have a chance there is nothing better for me than a deep plunge into the sea."

There is no argument that Jonathan is one of the most talented mat men in the world today but if there is one significant thing instrumental in his success it is his superb condition.

If necessary Don Leo could take a match on a few days notice and no promoter would have to worry about his performance.

"Any professional wrestler who doesn't take good care of his body is cheating himself and the public too. With all the travel required and the demands of four-five matches every week, it is one of the most demanding sports in the world," Jonathan explained.

And Don Leo is a versatile athlete — if the opponent requires scientific treatment he gets it. If some adversary is foolhardy enough to try "dirty" tactics on Jonathan, he'll get it back with spades.

Jonathan recently won the Grand Prix version of the world's championship, beating arch-rival Mad Dog Vachon. But the magnificent Giant won't rest easy until he gains the belt sanctioned by the National Wrestling Alliance.

"They can bring on Brisco, Funk, Race, Morales, Kowalski, Sammartino and Carpentier. None of them can beat me and they know it. I'm getting tired of the run around from these guys."

Perhaps before 1974 passes into history, Don Leo Jonathan will prove to these rivals there is more to the man — in and out of the ring — than just being a Mormon...



The Grand Prix heavyweight champion arrives for a match in rather dapper attire.

by CHARLEY GAZZELLO

Since the thirties the face of professional wrestling has undergone an amazing transition. Athletic skill and muscle power just aren't enough. Perhaps more than ever before the keynote is showmanship.

Midgets, bleached blondes, bona fide European giants, grapplers with gimmick names and just plain gimmicks and of course, women wrestlers have found new popularity and greater financial rewards.

In the wacky world of wrestling is there nothing new under the sun? If there is WRESTLING MONTHLY hasn't heard about it.

We even posed this question:

Would it be in poor taste for a woman grappler to "battle" a wrestling bear?

Apparently not any more. It's already happened on the southern circuit in the United States.

Frankly, WRESTLING MONTHLY is surprised such bouts could be made but if that's what the public wants, that's what the public gets.

When you consider the size of the animal, it takes a plucky girl for such action. Most brown grizzlies weight between 500 and 700 pounds.

True, the bear is muzzled, has his claws clipped and he usually wears some kind of gloves on his paws. But if the big fellow lost his temper and took a swipe at the gal, he could possibly break her neck.

Bears are natural wrestlers by instinct but it is usually a pro wrestler who serves as the handler and teaches the furry warrior a few tricks about the ring.

Ada Ash may be the first distaff mat menace to step through the ropes with a bear.

Al Szas, the woman's husband, is an animal trainer and has a grappling behemoth named

# THE BARE



# **FACTS ARE WOMEN DO WRESTLE BEARS IN RING**

Terrible Ted, who weighs in around 650 pounds.

Recently Ada wrestled the bear on a southern swing through Mississippi, Arkansas and Alabama.

Whether Miss Ash pinned the animal or not is incidental. The show was hilarious from start to finish. Just imagine a 130-pound lass trying to knock a six foot bear off his haunches.

Ada is an agile performer and she showed no fear of Terrible Ted, jumping on his back for a "piggy back" ride. But she couldn't get a legitimate fall in a 30-minute time limit although Teddy was on the canvas more than enough to satisfy her ego.

Another exciting match recently unfolded in Nashville where Cora Combs tangled with a furry menace named Gorgeous Gus, who tipped the scales at 600 pounds.

This edition of Beauty and the Beast was a standoff although Cora could have been called the unofficial winner since Gus became the Reluctant Dragon at one juncture and tried to climb out of the ring.

There was no panic among the audience since the entire ring was enclosed in a strong wire meshed fence. Even if Gorgeous Gus did get out of the ring he probably would have ignored the patrons in preference to the concession stand where his gourmet taste for soda pop and peanuts would be satisfied.

There will be more matches of this type in the future. Tonya West of Detroit has been working out regularly with a bear owned by Dubois and may soon be ready for a bout.

Wrestler-trainer Dubois has a daughter, Rachel, who is campaigning in the Kansas City area and it would be only natural if she decided to test the mettle of her father's pet project.

There are some grapplers who are allergic to fur and just can't

get into the ring with a bear. And for the woman performer it would be murder — especially when somebody mentions mink.

The big secret in mixing it with a bear is to lock up with the animal in what is known as "the referee's position". This is the stance all wrestlers generally use in starting a match and making contact.

Male wrestlers have been known to smear honey on their trunks to distract the bear but this maneuver hasn't always worked to their advantage.

There was a strong wrestler in Indianapolis a few seasons back who got the bright idea he would lift the bear off the canvas.

The bear wasn't a dumbbell. He simply relaxed and fell on the matman. It wasn't until the trainer intervened that the bear removed his 700 pounds off the prostrate grappler.

Mildred Burke, the greatest champion in the history of women's wrestling, recalls her near-encounter with a grappling grizzlie.

It happened in 1945 in Nashville when promoter Roy Welch wanted to jazz up his card.

"Roy took me out to see the bear which was chained to a tree. He wasn't muzzled and his claws were bare. Suddenly he ran the length of the chain and grabbed at my legs. Luckily, I moved out of reach just in time but I was really scared. I was the top draw in the country and I couldn't afford to take a chance that the bear would get out of hand in the ring. What I didn't need then was a broken leg."

Miss Burke's late husband and promoter, Billy Wolfe, started the bear craze in 1940 with a 500-pounder named The Bomber.

"He started the act on the carnival circuit touring through Kansas, Missouri and Iowa. It was an instant success and when people saw how well it was doing at the box office, some jealous



Tom Thumb seems to be enjoying the action but going against Ted The Bear can't always be a fun thing.



Look out world — here comes Ted The Bear looking mean and wanting plenty of action regardless of the gender.



A woman wrestler is a finely conditioned athlete but she could never pick up a 600 pound bear like she is doing here to a female adversary.



Viviane Vachon is one of the best young grapplers in the business today and would probably be a tough opponent for any bear.

idiot poisoned the bear after a show one night."

Despite all the protective equipment worn by a wrestling bear, Mildred contends "you can never trust them completely."

"If a bear lost his temper in the ring and really got mad, even the trainer would have a hard time calming him down."

Mrs. Burke feels that way about most non-domestic animals.

"I remember one time when I was to pose for publicity pictures with the MGM lion. This fellow just didn't like women and when I got around him, he let everybody know it. We finally had to junk the project."

The grandmother of today, who started female mat competition in carnivals in 1935, doesn't believe the average girl has enough strength to put up a good show against grizzlies.

There might be one exception, Mildred added.

"Back in the 40's there was Gladys Gilliam who we called 'Crazy Gladys.' She didn't know much about wrestling but she was as tough as nails. I understand she married a lion tamer and has learned the routine. Anyway, if there is one girl who would make me feel sorry for the bear it's Gladys."

Miss Burke recalls a match with Gladys in 1940 at Cleveland which had to be one of her toughest in a 6,000 match career.

"In those days we wore long tights. Well, Crazy Gladys actually bit me on the thigh and she wouldn't let go. Her teeth cut through the tights and drew blood. I finally got loose with a forearm smash which broke her nose. You've heard of cauliflower ears, well that Gilliam had a cauliflowered head."

Mildred was bleeding so badly the ring physician insisted on her taking a tetanus shot to avoid infection. Now can you imagine a bear getting a tetanus shot?

**CONTRASTING STYLES LINK TWO ERAS**

# **"DREAM MATCH"**



**COULD LONDOS'  
TECHNIQUE OF THIRTIES**

**OUTLAST GAGNE'S  
SWASHBUCKLING OF TODAY?**

**about who was the greatest wrestler of all-time.**

The fat guy contended "nobody could have beaten Jim Londos in his prime."

But the fat guy's sidekick didn't see it that way, opting for Verne Gagne as the "greatest athlete who ever stepped into a wrestling ring."

The obvious question was next — how would Gagne have fared against Londos and vice-versa if they could meet today?

For the younger generation and the neophyte mat fans, let us remind such a match is impossible.

Londos, long hailed as the Golden Greek, is now 76 and a retired millionaire on his avocado ranch in Escondido, Calif., a sleepy little town near San Diego.

Gagne recently returned from a tour of the Orient and though in his mid-forties, Verne still is one of the world's foremost wrestlers.

Perhaps the simplest reason why it would be impossible to analyze a Gagne-Londos encounter is the fact these two brilliant athletes are from two different eras.

In the Golden Greek's heyday virtually all matches were two out of three falls with no time limit. Bouts of 90 minutes to two hours or more were commonplace.

There was no television to dictate the duration of the mat action.

During Londos' reign there was more action on the mat itself. Wrist, arm and leg locks and body scissors were the vogue from the turn of the century through the mid-thirties.

Today there are more new holds or variations there of and the rules are more lenient in the stand up style. The fore-arm smashes so common place in current competition were rarely seen in the twenties and thirties.

Londos, standing five-foot, eight and weighing 210 pounds, would prefer to wait and tire his man out while Gagne, though highly scientific when he has to be, is far more aggressive and is constantly forcing the action.

Jim, whose father was an excellent amateur grappler in his

native Greece, turned to the mat sport when he was 18 in his home town of Argos.

"My father disowned me when I was 17 because I wanted to turn professional. He thought professional wrestlers were all bums" Londos said recently. Londos, who matched strength and skill with such greats as Jim McMillan, Jumping Joe Savoldi, Strangler Ed Lewis and Nick Condos, recalls vividly when his father relented.

The match was in Athens and there were 110,000 spectators in the stadium.

"I was wrestling a Russian named Kola Kowirani. After an hour and 36 minutes, I finally pinned him and when that happened, the king's guard picked up my father and carried him around the arena. My father came to my dressing room and

**THE CAREERS OF  
LONDOS AND GAGNE  
MARKED TWO  
VASTLY DIFFERENT ERAS  
BUT TALENT  
PREVAILED**

forgave me. That was the proudest moment of my life."

Londos' name was always magic at the box office and when he first challenged Stangler Lewis for the title, the powerful duo attracted 52,000 fans to Wrigley Field in Chicago in 1933.

Jim was unsuccessful that night and later in the year Jim Browning won the crown from Lewis who had taken the halo the previous year from Dick Shikat. Londos also had a victory over Shikat.

Londos finally got the championship belt from Browning, pinning him in Madison Square

by JACK WELSH

Wherever the sporting gentry gathers controversy usually fills the air in discussions about champions of yesteryear compared to today's modern super stars.

Be it baseball, football, basketball, horse racing, boxing or wrestling, everybody has an opinion.

Comparing the giants of the past with the post World War II athletes proves nothing but it does provide excellent ammunition for the hot stove debaters.

Just the other day a couple of guys were sucking on cold beer and cigars in a heated session

**LONDOS WORKED  
30 YEARS  
AND 5,000 MATCHES  
BEFORE CALLING IT  
QUIT IN '46**

**SAM MUCHNICK  
MUSES  
OVER JIM'S  
LAST SUCCESSFUL  
DEFENSE**

Garden in 1934.

Sam Muchnick, long one of the guiding forces in pro wrestling and currently president of the National Wrestling Alliance, has vivid memories of the Greek.

"I was working for Tom Packs, the old veteran midwest promoter and was on tour with Londos his last time around as champion with stops in Texas and Oklahoma."

Muchnick recalls Jim's last successful defense of the coveted belt.

"The date was June 14, 1935 in Houston against Strangler Lewis and it seems like yesterday. Londos was going against the man who was probably the greatest defensive wrestler of all-time. Ed was past his prime but still a dangerous opponent. After an hour and a half, Jim finally got the winning pin."

It was the beginning of the end for Londos as champion. Just thirteen days later he travelled to Boston to face a fast rising newcomer Danno O'Mahoney of Ireland. O'Mahoney beat Londos in a torrid match and held the title for a year before losing to Shikat.

"Londos was a stickler for conditioning and worked three-four hours every day in the gym. He played a lot handball but did not lift weights, preferring to work against live opposition in the ring. Sometimes that was hard to find," Sam said.

The Greek phenom wrestled for 30 years before retiring in 1946 and participated in an esti-

mated 5,000 matches all over the world.

Londos, whose real name was Christopher Theopolous, actually faced Lewis in the twilight of his magnificent career and caught the immortal Joe Stecher at the same time but he feared and barred no man.

Probably the two men who gave Londos his toughest matches were Ray Steele and John Pek.

Londos' large stock in trade was his submission holds.

"Jim could apply tremendous pressure once he set a man up for the kill. Some of the most courageous and durable wrestlers couldn't stand the punishment inflicted by Londos when he really went to work."

Muchnick couldn't pick between Londos and Gagne in their prime.

"It would probably be a stand-off. Gagne's bigger at 225 and has a more rough and tumble style. Neither wrestler had many weaknesses in the ring. Maybe a bigger man — say 270 pounds — with the same ability as Verne could beat him. Londos probably wouldn't be use to those repeated forearm smashes to the chest and that could possibly cause him to back up a bit."

Gagne really never wanted to be anything else but a wrestler although he was an excellent football player—both collegiate and pro.

A native of Robbinsdale, Minnesota, Verne started on the mat in high school. In 1944 Gagne entered the University of Minnesota where he was a standout end for Bernie Bierman's Golden Gophers.

Scholastically as well as athletically, Gagne was a star on the Minneapolis campus. In March, 1944 he won the Big Ten championship but with World War II at its zenith, two months later Gagne joined the Marine Corps.

**VERNE GAGNE  
SAID NO  
TO PRO FOOTBALL  
AFTER  
SUCCESSFUL COLLEGE  
GRIDIRON CAREER**

The good-looking youngster didn't have much time for wrestling but he did manage to continue playing football as a member of the late Col. Dick Hanley's El Toro Flying Marines squad.

The El Toro team was composed of All-Americans and all-pros from the National League. . . names like Elroy "Crazy Legs" Hirsch, Wee Willie Wilkin, Bob Dove, Paul Governali, Walt Clay and Ernie Lewis among others. Gagne held his own in such fast company.

El Toro lost the national service championship to the Fleet City, Calif., Sailors in December, 1945 in the Los Angeles Coliseum but Gagne played his steady, tough game.

In 1946 the All-America Conference was born and with the formation of the Chicago Rockets, most of the Leatherneck grid personnel was signed.

The Windy City wanted Verne but he declined to return to Minnesota and resume his studies. He also resumed his spectacular college career in football and on the mat.

From 1947 thru 1949, Gagne was again Big Ten champion plus adding NCAA crowns. He also made honorable mention on the Associated Press All-American football team. In 1948 he represented the U.S. in the Olympic Games in London.

It was in England that Verne decided on a pro mat career and had his first match in May, 1949, starting in Texas where he won

wrestle you. If you win, I sign. If I win, I go back to school. Cordovano was real strong.

He played football at Georgetown and later wrestled pro. Anyway, as you know, I went back to school."

Gagne learned the rudiments of the mat sport in college but is quick to point out the difference in the pro ranks.

"The philosophy is different. As a pro you have to beat a man colorfully in order to draw crowds. Things like flying tackles, body slams and so on are executed to give the fans a thrill as well as effective holds on an opponent. In college you work for points. That's way it isn't as wide open because you lose points if you permit an opponent to break a hold."

Verne added that the "basic moves are similar. The main difference is the means you take to pin your opponent."

Gagne is currently hailed as world's champion by the American Wrestling Alliance, whose head close up quarter are in Minneapolis.

Perhaps one of the greatest personal tributes to Gagne's ability comes from Muchnick, who heads the rival N.W.A.

"Gagne has never won our N.W.A. sanction but I consider him one of the greatest wrestlers of modern times. But as I said before even if we weren't the best of friends, I couldn't choose a winner between Verne and Londos but it would be a helluva match."

Londos' favorite hold was the Unconscious Trap, better known as the Sleeper hold. This maneuver finds Jim seemingly running away from his opponent. Then suddenly he whirls and clamps on the lethal hold.

Gagne's pet gesture is the Japanese Leg Lock and when he applies it, his man rarely gets away.

"I know Jim Londos was one of

the state championship belt.

Like Londos, Gagne has always had that special magic which spells turnstile success. In January, 1952 — and remember he was a comparative newcomer — Verne attracted more than 7,000 in Chicago as he held then world's champion Lou Thesz to a draw.

"I guess they met about six times with Thesz holding the majority of victories. However, Verne did beat Lou at the Amphitheatre in Chicago shortly after that draw," Muchnick explained.

The pattern of Verne's ring career was in evidence early. The ex-gridder was awarded the Police Gazette belt in Chicago on Jan. 26, 1952 for his contribution to clean and scientific wrestling.

"I don't mind if my opponents get extra rough and if he wants to play dirty, that's alright with me — I know all that stuff too. But I'd rather go in there and wrestle. To hell with those street fighting tactics." Gagne informed.

Personable, Gagne also has a sense of humor.

**CHOOSING A WINNER  
WOULD BE DIFFICULT  
BUT ONE  
HELLUVA MATCH  
WOULD  
COME OUT OF IT**

Recalling his grid days with the El Toro Marines, Verne recounted.

"Sam Cordovano who was recruiting for the Buffalo Bills, entertained some of us one night in Los Angeles. Sam was trying to sign some of the marines. I really couldn't make up my mind.

Finally, I said to Sam 'I'll tell you what I'll do, I'll Indian

the greatest men in the history of the sport. But talk about such mythical matches don't prove anything since they can't be made. And of course, the styles of the game have changed so much in the last 35 years," Verne opined.

Londos looks at today's style of wrestling with disdain.

"If a man wrestles for an hour and one-half or two hours, he tends to pace himself to coast for periods of time. But if we change the rules, if we made it into rounds like boxing does, then the wrestlers will mix all the time and it will be exciting."

"Jim's theory goes something like this:

- Establish rounds of three or four minutes duration.
- Give one minute rest between rounds.
- Judges to score with points on the basis of aggressiveness and falls.
- Pinning an opponent would be a knockout equivalent of boxing.
- The pinning requirement of a fall would be two seconds, not three as currently employed.

**THE GOLDEN GREEK  
IS NOW 76  
AND A RETIRED  
MILLIONAIRE  
LIVING IN  
CALIFORNIA**

"Three seconds is quite a long time to hold a man's back on the mat. Two seconds should be long enough," Londos said.

Gagne made a motion picture last spring, "The Wrestler" which will be released in December. If you have ever seen some of the old films on Londos, catch the Gagne flick. It might help your opinion on who could beat who.

**ROUNDS  
AS IN BOXING  
WOULD GIVE  
PRO WRESTLING  
NEW LIFE  
AND EXCITEMENT**



# Killer Brooks was cigar smoking baby

"Yeah!, I'm one of them sadissies. Hell, I'm even one of them crazy masseykissies."

Translated into everyday English this would come out that Timothy Aloysius Brooks was admitting to being both a sadist and masochist and didn't give a damn who knew it.

Well, to start off anybody who is named Timothy Aloysius better learn to stand on his own two

feet mighty early in life. But Timothy Aloysius told me he had been called Killer since he was three years old.

It all started back in Dallas, Texas where little T.A. quickly earned his nickname. Brooks tells it like this.

"I was about three or four or so and used to put away a good cigar a day while other kids had marbles, yo-yo's and spinning tops. I hated kids who played with toys so I would go around and when I would see kids play-

be in trouble all the time. Brooks loved wrestling, but the judge's didn't see his "style" as wrestling and he became the bad boy of high school wrestling in Dallas.

Killer also excelled in football and the shot put while in school. After high school it was off to Europe with Uncle Sam's forces where he became all European United States army wrestling champion. Brooks remembers these five years in Europe as his training grounds, for he built such a reputation that wrestling promoters back in America awaited his discharge so they could put him to work for them.

Killer was now a strapping two hundred and sixty pounds spread out over six feet. The first time we happened upon on the Killer was during a match in

Huntington, West Virginia, and he was wearing a big pad over his elbow. The match was see-sawing back and forth when out of the clear bluesky, Brooks goes for his pad, then down on his opponent's head and that was it.

It was all over. The fans screamed and yelled that the Killer had something in the pad, the referee listened then went over to Brooks and asked if he could examine the elbow pad, but Killer just ran from the ring proclaiming his innocence to one and all. I went in to talk to Brooks and found him sitting in a chair, boots off, shower slippers

# so he just had to be mean on mat

by GEORGE McCARTHER



Killer's famed elbow smash is about to send another guy to some emergency ward.

ing, I would put down my cigar and whale into them. By the time I was in elemetary school everyone called me "Killer."

I remember one kid who referred to me as 'Timothy Aloysius,' and today he is still selling pencils in some corner downtown, and will never walk again!"

It was during Killer's high school days that he first entered the of sport wrestling. He figured he would still be able to bash heads, but this way he wouldn't

on and a big cigar in his bushy face.

I asked him what he had put in the elbow pad or what he had in there to begin with. "Here, take a look, nothing in there but sponge and padding. That's all and that's all you, or anybody else will ever find, just because a wrestler wins his match is no reason to be accused of foul play. You know sports writers are a funny breed of people, a baseball pitcher wins some games and right away he is accused of throwing a spit ball, a wrestler wins his matches and you guys are all over him with vile accusations of illegal tricks."

Now Brooks was on his feet pacing back and forth, "I perfected that elbow smash and it has kept a lot of hospitals in business" he went on. This is also one of the Killer's favorite speeches to new wrestlers. He tells them to be prepared to pay a lot of hospital bills.

"I hated kids who played with toys" In grammar school they already called him "killer"

A married man, with no children, Brooks spends all of his spare time back on a big ranch he purchased with earnings from his elbow smash. He wouldn't say where it was located, but a good guess would be somewhere between Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas. He did say that he has plenty of Black Angus so the meat shortage hasn't affected him at all.

"I eat plenty of beef" he said "and vegetables with a good wine and, oh yes, good cigars". Killer said he would like to wrestle as long as he can. Wrestling he said was a dog eat dog business but that he loves to bust heads, and one of his hobbies is

counting how many wrestlers he has put in the emergency ward.

"Tell you what I really love" he said, "One night down in a small town in Kentucky, I was wrestling this fellow and giving him a real going over when all of sudden who should jump in the ring but his wife, swinging her purse, well, I turned around and gave her a working over also, and ended up giving her the elbow smash on the head. Man, woman, child, cat, or dog, if they come in the ring while I'm having my fun, they are going to get busted like any one else."

The last time I saw Killer Brooks was in Cincinnati, Ohio when The Killer ran in the ring-and, zap, the elbow smash again. Later Timothy Aloysius Brooks alias Killer told me his philosophy. "Some guys get along in this world by using their heads. I'm smart, I use my elbow."



Man, woman, child or pet won't prevent Brooks from having his fun.



Who would ever want to tell Killer he shouldn't use illegal tactics?

**KINISKI  
ENDED THESZ'S ERA  
NOW GENE  
HAS FORMULA  
TO BUILD OWN MAT LEGEND...**



## CALGARY STAR HOLDS BIG VICTORIES OVER BRISCO, FUNK



Gene Kiniski shows an opponent no mercy when he has his man set up for the kill.



The ex-champ's powerful legs are indeed an asset.



Kiniski obviously has his man in trouble.

by LARRY MATYSIK

The sixth and last reign of all-time great Lou Thesz as World Heavyweight Champion came to an end in St. Louis' Kiel Auditorium on January 7, 1966. He was upset and dethroned by Gene Kiniski, a 275-pound giant who became the third Canadian ever to hold the National Wrestling Alliance laurels.

Kiniski's tenure on top was, to say the least, turbulent and eventful. His demise came as something of a shock when he was topped by young Dory Funk, Jr. in Tampa, Florida, on February 11, 1969. There were very few who were NOT shocked at the defeat of the craggy, ringwise Kiniski by the promising but largely untested youngster from southwest Texas.

Funk, of course, went on to establish himself as one of the finest titleholders in modern times. But that didn't deter from the shock to Kiniski, who immediately after his loss vowed to someday regain the championship.

He may well be on the verge of realizing that dream today.

It is not Funk, however, who "Big Thunder" is chasing. It is former N.C.A.A. mat king Jack Brisco, who knocked off Harley Race, who had earlier surprised



Gene pits his strength here against Jack Brisco in a torrid match which he won.

Funk.

What makes Kiniski think that he can take the measure of the fiery Brisco? "I've already beaten him," growled Kiniski, an interviewer's epitome because a single question elicits a lengthy, colorful answer. "You'll recall that Brisco won the World Championship from Race in Houston, Texas, on July 20, 1973. If you'll take the time to check the records, you'll also find that on June 15 of the same year I soundly defeated Brisco in St. Louis.

"Moreover, Race won the crown from Funk in Kansas City, Kansas, on May 24, 1973. Six days prior to that, I scored a convincing triumph over Race, also in St. Louis," Gene explained. "Therefore, I hold wins over each of the last two grapplers with the World Heavyweight Championship. And I'd welcome the opportunity for a crack at Funk right now. Before he got lucky and took the championship from me, I had turned back a previous challenge by him."

I can defeat Jack Brisco. He knows it, I know it, the fans know it and the promoters know it. This isn't to say that on some given night Brisco wouldn't be able to get by me. Let's face it," Kiniski added grudgingly,

"Brisco, like Race and Funk, is a fantastic wrestler. As much as I hate to admit it, somewhere along the line he could get a victory over me. But if we met seven times, as in the Stanley Cup finals or the World Series, I am totally confident I would win at least four times."

Obviously, Kiniski is quite confident of his athletic prowess. And with good reason. A native of Edmonton, Canada, the six-foot-five Kiniski got his start in wrestling at the local YMCA under the tutelage of Leo Magrill. "Now there's a guy who deserves a lot of credit," Gene claimed. "He's helped many, many kids over the years in expanding their horizons through athletics."

While Kiniski was setting the Edmonton area on its ear with his splendid high school mat record, he was also earning quite a reputation as a football player. When he went to college at the University of Arizona he starred on both the gridiron and the mat. After graduation (Gene studied psychology), he turned down an offer from the N.F.L. Los Angeles Rams to join the Edmonton Eskimos of the Canadian league.

Kiniski was a real standout at tackle for the Eskimos. Two of his able teammates at the time were Wilbur Snyder and Joe



When he has the time the Canadian giant loves to hunt in the northwest.



Gene, then world's champion, defends his title against Tex McKenzie at Charlotte, N.C.

## GENE'S RING PHILOSOPHY "DO UNTO OTHERS BEFORE THEY DO UNTO YOU"



Gene is in flight as he dives at Wilbur Snyder, a former grid teammate and now an arch enemy on the mat.



Kiniski has a powerful forearm smash cocked for action.

Blanchard. When Kiniski decided to switch to professional wrestling after two years, Snyder and Blanchard followed suit. But it wasn't long before Kiniski found himself upset with both men and often at odds with them inside the squared circle.

"Wrestling was the sport for me," declared Kiniski. "In wrestling you're on your own. You don't lose because a teammate fouls something up. But I still love football, and hockey too. My home now is near Vancouver and I follow the Canucks very closely. It's too bad some of their players aren't as willing to get rough in their business as I am in mine."

It goes without saying that Kiniski's reputation in wrestling is based on ruggedness. "I have a simple philosophy — do unto others before they do unto you. This is a brutal sport and you have to do what is necessary if you are going to provide what is best for yourself and your family."

But don't ever forget that this man can be a polished grappler, if he so desires or the need so arises. As of this writing, Kiniski is the holder of the Missouri State Heavyweight Championship. A persistent challenger has been Johnny Valentine, who is every bit as tough and as adept at back-alley tactics as is Kiniski.

The two clashed recently in a



Kiniski proudly displays his Missouri heavyweight championship belt.

match that fans describe as "classic." Kiniski took the first fall, after he battered Valentine with knee drives, kicks, judo slashes and body slams. Finally Gene's famous back breaker ended the stanza.

Valentine bounced back doggedly in the second fall. He stood toe-to-toe with Kiniski and finally floored Gene with a teeth-rattling body slam. Johnny then zeroed in on Kiniski's neck and chest with a pair of "brainbusters" to even the fracas.

Fans were literally on the edge of their seats at the start of the final fall. They probably believed that they were on the verge of seeing a new Missouri State king crowned. But it wasn't to be.

Again the two faced up to each other and exchanged savage punishment. Suddenly Valentine bent to grab Kiniski for a body slam. Almost instinctively, however, Kiniski locked Valentine's head with one arm and hooked John's leg with Gene's own leg and other arm. Then he whipped Valentine over in a front rolling cradle (or "small package") and held the Seattle blond bomber down for the decisive pin. It was a sparkling scientific move to end what had been a vicious donnybrook.

"That victory was another reason why Brisco should take me on," barked Kiniski. "When I

was World Champion, I met every challenge head-on. I backed away from nobody. If I beat a man, and he again proved himself to be a top contender, I met him again. If a man proved he deserved a match with me, he got it!

"Certainly I've proved that I deserve a bout with Brisco — or whoever holds the World Championship at any time," he went on. "The 'Canadian Avalanche' is rolling. It's burying everything in its path. It has proven that Kiniski is wrestling — and wrestling is Kiniski."

Kiniski says he has complete and total happiness in his chosen profession. "That's because I made it to the top through the simple exercise of self-discipline. I have never, and will never, abuse my body or my mind.

"My body is my factory. I keep every single one of its parts in perfect running condition," smiled Kiniski. "And I keep my mind sharp and developed through lots of reading and mental exercise. If the factory and the Board of Directors — in this instance, my mind — are in the best of shape and moving forward together, nothing — absolutely nothing — can stop you from achieving success!"

And success is what Gene Kiniski has achieved — a lot of it previously, and a lot more of it to come. ■

# STOMPER MITCHELL'S WIFE



## LITERALLY CRASHED HER WAY INTO HIS HEART

by MIKE HUNT

Visualize this if you can. You driving along minding your own business and all of a sudden . . . Wham! Bang! Your head is cut open, you have a slight concussion, you can't move your left wrist, your right knee gives way on you, your \$8000 car is demo-

lished, luggage you have in the car is destroyed, your going to miss a main event match that night and who knows when or if you will ever wrestle again, and so, what do you do?

Well, I don't know what you would do, but I know what Guy Mitchell did. He dragged himself out of the car with red in his eyes, as hurt as he was he was going to kill this stupid, dumb, idiot who had sailed into the rear of his car.

"Here I was at peace with the

world, the only worry I had was my match coming up that evening, when all this happened. I had blood both on my forehead and in my mind, this stupid idiot, if he wasn't hurt already he was going to feel some by the time I got through with him. I staggered up to the car, yanked open the door and I couldn't believe my eyes.

I just gawked and stared for sitting behind the wheel of the car that had done all this damage



Another foe welcomes sandman through Stomper's sleeper hold.

was this beautiful blue eyed doll, tears streaming down her cheeks. I couldn't speak, it was as if I was struck with an arrow from the bow of Eros.

By then doctors and police had arrived along with an ambulance and everyone was trying to examine me and put me in the ambulance, but all I could think of was the girl. Believe me, I forgot about my pains, car, damage, everything all I could think she was hurt. Was she all right? Well, I wouldn't go to the hospital unless she agreed to go along with me and she did. We started dating and now this beautiful doll, who did all this damage to me, is now my wife."

Now, Guy Mitchell's wife goes just about everywhere with him. "I don't want him to become involved in another rear end collision, especially if Guy looks at



Guy Mitchell had a goal and he's found everything he wanted.



Now fans! Wouldn't you have been caught speechless too?

her like he did at me that day."

Guy, who always wanted to be a wrestler, ever since he can remember, started at the very young age of seventeen as a professional. Loving all sports and playing a good game of hockey never interfered with his wrestling. "When I met my wife and married, it was the final touch to all I have ever wanted."

Guy learned his first holds at the Y.M.C.A. in Hamilton, Ontario. He would wait around the Y.M.C.A. from early morning to the late hours, in the hope some visiting wrestler may be looking for a workout. By the time he was seventeen he stood 6'3" and weighed 250 pounds and he was off to the mat wars.

The ironical part of all this is that Guy exercises very little now, he loves boating and sailing, but believes that all the wrestling he does keeps him in top shape. He weighs only twenty pounds more now than when he started out. Loving to travel has been a blessing for every once in a while he gets the long trip itch and it's off to Japan or Australia.

So many times has he crossed the Pacific he believes he could navigate the trips himself. Guy loves Japan, "I could live there, I love the food, raw fish, sukiyaki, sushi, terriyaki, tempura."

A non-smoker and non-drinker, he makes up for this with great love for food. On his last trip to Japan Guy brought his wife Carolyn along. A master at

**GUY DOESN'T SMOKE  
OR DRINK  
BUT HE MAKES UP  
FOR IT WITH FOOD  
ESPECIALLY  
JAPANESE FARE**

floral arrangements Carolyn was anxious to learn the Japanese methods and techniques so she was quite at home going to classes and schools in Tokyo.

"Yes," she said, "I could learn to love Japan as I also love the food and everywhere you look there are flowers. The Japanese people love arranging and have beautiful ways of putting flowers together."

Carolyn loves to travel and can be seen with Guy at most arenas.

"I want to make at least one world tour with Carolyn, starting in Australia then to Japan and I would love to wrestle in India then to South Africa, then maybe up to Europe where I would like to spend about a year, especially Scotland where we have a lot of relatives."

Being a very busy man gives Guy little time for relaxation but when he finds a moment or two he likes to tickle the ivories, play a little mouth organ and flute, also he loves to read and will pick up and read anything he can get his hands on.

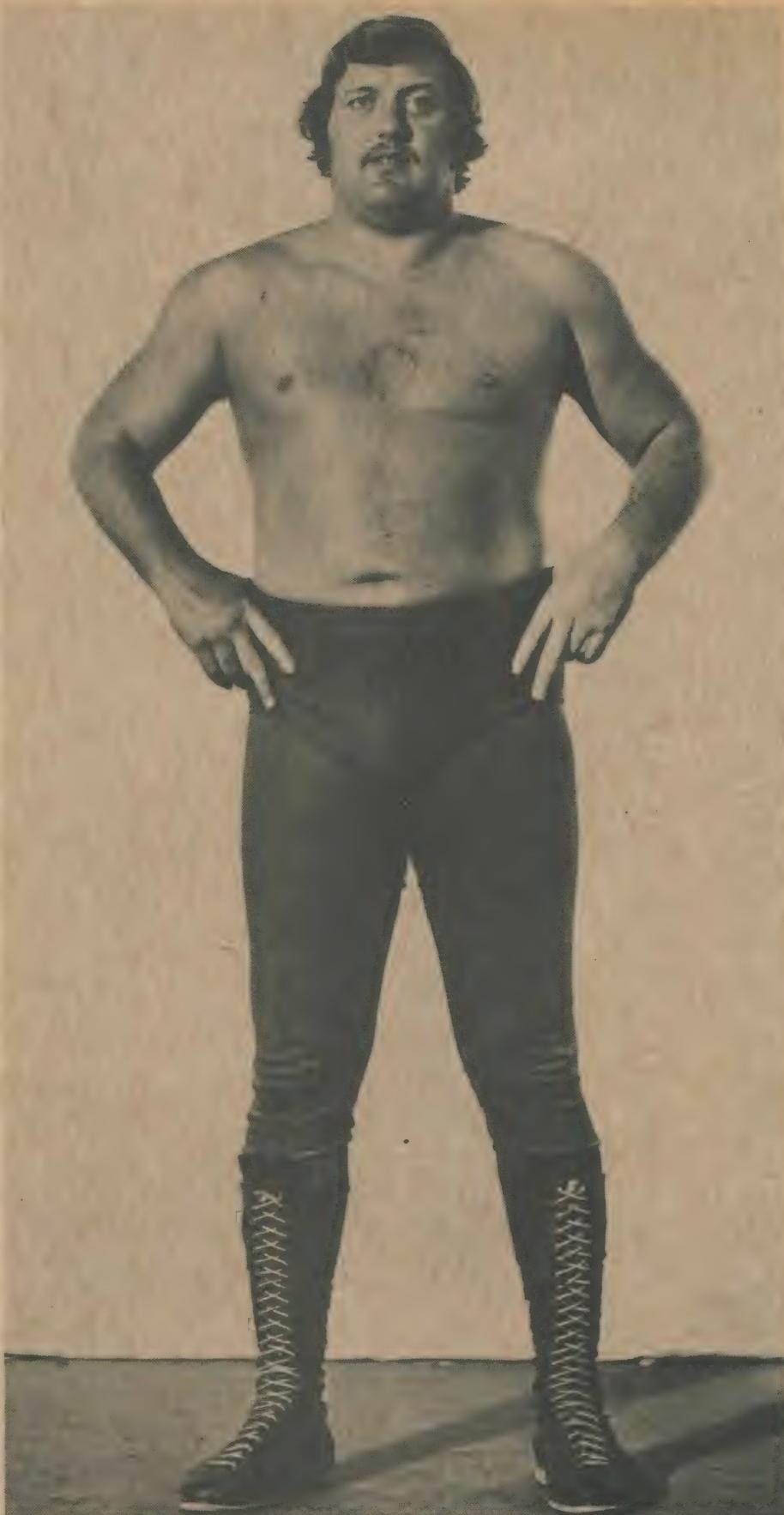
I have watched Guy wrestle and he uses a great variety of holds, his favorite he said would probably be the sleeper holds. Most of the other holds he uses to wear down his opponents and when the time is ready he slaps the sleeper on them.

"At the present time there is another wrestler going around the country", Guy said, "telling all who will listen that he taught me the sleeper. Well, the wrestler that taught me the sleeper hold that I use was the late Chief Don Eagle from an Indian reservation called Caughnawaga just outside Montreal. The sleeper he showed me was the old Indian way of putting their enemies to sleep permanently. You have to know when to let up on the hold so that your opponent is just unconscious, anything else you hear about how I learned the sleeper is alie."

**THE SLEEPER HOLD  
HE APPLIES  
WAS TAUGHT HIM  
BY INDIAN WRESTLER  
CHIEF DON EAGLE**

Guy likes tag team wrestling and has had a great variety of partners, most recently Tex McKenzie and Bobo Brazil. I asked him about Ben Justice and he refuses to talk about him.

Ben and Guy were partners close to two years when Justice turned on him. "I love life." Guy said, "I never worry, things always turn out for the best, a beautiful wife, the good life," I would say things have turned out pretty good for Guy Mitchell.



**Guy Mitchell, veteran of the mat wars and applauded the world over.**

# T.V. WRESTLING GUIDE

In this section we attempt to list every television wrestling show in the world. Although we have a fairly complete listing, the changeable nature of television schedule makes it impossible for us to be sure that it is complete and up to date. Therefore, we request that our readers help us by letting us know of any changes in the television schedule in their area, and of any shows that we have failed to list or listed incorrectly.

CHANNEL	CITY	DAY	TIME
<b>ALABAMA</b>			
19 WHNT	Huntsville	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
40 WHMA	Anniston	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
33 WCFT	Tuscaloosa	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
42 WBMG	Birmingham	Saturday	10:00 P.M.
40 WHMA	Anniston	Wednesday	10:30 P.M.
4 WTVY	Dothan	Saturday	4:30 P.M.
32 WKAB	Montgomery	Saturday	10:15 P.M.
48 WMSL	Huntsville	—	—
<b>ARIZONA</b>			
21 KPAZ	Phoenix	Thursday	7:00 P.M.
11 KZAZ	Nogales	Sunday	5:00 P.M.
<b>ARKANSAS</b>			
10 KTVE	El Dorado	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
5 KFSA	Fort Smith	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
8 KAIT	Jonesboro	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
8 KAIT	Jonesboro	Sunday	1:00 P.M.
40 KFPW	Fort Smith	Saturday	12:00 P.M.
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>			
13 KCOP	Los Angeles	Saturday	8:00 P.M.
34 KMEX	Los Angeles	Saturday	11:00 P.M.
34 KMEX	Los Angeles	Wednesday	7:30 P.M.
40 KLXA	Los Angeles	Friday	8:05 P.M.
40 KTLX	Sacramento	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
36 KGSC	San Jose	Saturday	9:00 P.M.
44 KBHK	San Francisco	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
40 KTLX	Sacramento	Sunday	4:00 P.M.
34 KMEX	Los Angeles	Thursday	11:00 P.M.
5 KTLA	Los Angeles	Wednesday	7:30 P.M.
<b>COLORADO</b>			
4 KOA	Denver	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
5 KOAA	Pueblo	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
5 KOAA	Pueblo	Friday	3:30 P.M.
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>			
3 WTNH	New Haven	Saturday	12:30 A.M.
<b>FLORIDA</b>			
3 WEAR	Pensacola	Saturday	10:00 P.M.
12 WFGA	Jacksonville	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
6 WCTV	Tallahassee	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
5 WPTV	Palm Beach	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
23 WLTV	Miami	Sunday	1:30 P.M.
6 WCIX	Miami	Saturday	3:30 P.M.
9 WFTV	Orlando	Saturday	1:30 P.M.
11 WINK	Fort Myers	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
44 WTOG	Tampa	Saturday	8:00 P.M.
10 WLCT	St. Petersburg	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
40 WXLT	Sarasota	Sunday	5:00 P.M.
51 WKID	Miami	Saturday	7:30 P.M.
<b>GEORGIA</b>			
3 WRBL	Colombus	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
41 WCWB	Macon	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
17 WTCG	Atlanta	Saturday	7:00 P.M.
41 WCWB	Macon	Sunday	3:00 P.M.
6 WJBF	Augusta	Saturday	3:00 P.M.
11 WTOC	Savannah	Saturday	11:00 P.M.
10 WALB	Albany	Saturday	5:30 P.M.
<b>HAWAII</b>			
9 KGMB	Honolulu	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
3 KMAU	Waikiki	Saturday	3:30 P.M.
9 KPUA	Hilo	Saturday	3:30 P.M.
9 KGMB	Honolulu	Friday	10:30 P.M.
3 KMAU	Waikiki	Friday	10:30 P.M.
9 KPUA	Hilo	Friday	10:30 P.M.
13 KIKU	Honolulu	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
<b>ILLINOIS</b>			
44 WSNS	Chicago	Sunday	12:00 P.M.
44 WSNS	Chicago	Thursday	10:30 P.M.
26 WCIU	Chicago	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
26 WCIU	Chicago	Sunday	11:00 A.M.
13 WREX	Rockford	Sunday	11:00 A.M.
8 WOAD	Moline	Saturday	5:30 P.M.
10 WGEM	Quincy	Sunday	1:00 P.M.
8 WOAD	Moline	Sunday	11:30 P.M.
3 WSIL	Harrisburg	—	—
25 WEEK	Peoria	Saturday	12:00 NOON
3 WICA	Champaign	Saturday	4:30 P.M.
3 WCIA	Bloomington	Saturday	3:00 P.M.
<b>INDIANA</b>			
7 WTVW	Evansville	Saturday	3:00 P.M.
28 WSJV	South Bend	Saturday	2:00 P.M.

4 WTTV	Indianapolis	Saturday	12:45 P.M.
8 WISH	Indianapolis	Friday	1:00 A.M.
21 WPTA	Fort Wayne	Saturday	2:00 P.M.
<b>IOWA</b>			
13 WHO	Des Moines	Saturday	12:00 P.M.
13 WHO	Des Moines	Saturday	12:00 P.M.
7 KWVL	Waterloo	Saturday	4:30 P.M.
3 KYVO	Ottumwa	Sunday	2:00 P.M.
13 WHO	Des Moines	Sunday	11:00 P.M.
4 KTVI	Sioux City	Saturday	10:30 P.M.
<b>KANSAS</b>			
41 KBMA	Kansas City	Saturday	2:00 P.M.
41 KBMA	Kansas City	Tuesday	6:00 P.M.
7 KOAM	Pittsburgh	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
<b>KENTUCKY</b>			
32 WLKY	Louisville	Sunday	4:00 P.M.
13 WBKO	Bowling Green	Saturday	3:00 P.M.
13 WBKO	Bowling Green	Sunday	5:00 P.M.
29 WDXR	Paducah	Saturday	10:30 P.M.
41 WDRB	Louisville	Sunday	3:30 P.M.
<b>LOUISIANA</b>			
10 KTVE	EI Dorado	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
3 KTBS	Shreveport	Saturday	1:30 P.M.
8 WVUE	New Orleans	Sunday	9:30 A.M.
10 KLFY	Monroe	Saturday	3:00 P.M.
26 WWOM	New Orleans	Saturday	9:30 P.M.
9 WAFB	Baton Rouge	Sunday	9:30 A.M.
5 KALB	Alexandria	Saturday	12:00 P.M.
3 KTBS	Shreveport	Sunday	9:30 A.M.
10 KLFY	Lafayette	Sunday	9:30 A.M.
6 WDSU	New Orleans	Sunday	9:30 A.M.
26 WGNO	New Orleans	Sunday	9:30 A.M.
<b>MAINE</b>			
13 WGAN	Portland	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
5 WABI	Bangor	Saturday	11:15 P.M.
<b>MARYLAND</b>			
45 WBFF	Baltimore	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
25 WHAG	Hagerstown	Sunday	2:00 P.M.
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>			
38 WSBK	Boston	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
56 WKBG	Boston	Saturday	11:00 A.M.
27 WSMW	Worcester	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
22 WWWP	Springfield	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
<b>MICHIGAN</b>			
10 WLIX	Lansing	Saturday	6:00 P.M.
20 WXON	Detroit	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
20 WXON	Detroit	Thursday	8:00 P.M.
10 WLIX	Jackson	Saturday	5:30 P.M.
25 WEYI	Saginaw	Saturday	5:30 P.M.
41 WUHQ	Battle Creek	Saturday	2:00 P.M.
9 WWVT	Cadillac	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
10 WWUP	Cadillac	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
50 WKBD	Detroit	Saturday	11:00 A.M.
62 WKBD	Detroit	Friday	8:00 P.M.
<b>MINNESOTA</b>			
11 WTCN	Minneapolis	Saturday	6:00 P.M.
3 KDAL	Duluth	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
11 WTCN	Minneapolis	Sunday	11:30 A.M.
<b>MISSISSIPPI</b>			
4 WCBI	Columbus	Saturday	11:00 P.M.
13 WLOX	Biloxi	Saturday	10:30 P.M.
12 WJTV	Jackson	Saturday	3:00 P.M.
6 WABG	Greenwood	Saturday	5:30 P.M.
7 WDAM	Hattiesburg	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
9 WTWV	Tupelo	Saturday	11:40 P.M.
<b>MISSOURI</b>			
2 KQTV	St. Joseph	Saturday	10:30 P.M.
11 KPLR	St. Louis	Saturday	12:00 A.M.
11 KPLR	St. Louis	Sunday	11:00 A.M.
3 KYTV	Springfield	Sunday	11:00 P.M.
8 KOMU	Columbia	Saturday	2:00 P.M.
8 KOMU	Columbia	Saturday	11:55 P.M.
30 KDNL	St. Louis	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
<b>MONTANA</b>			
3 KYUS	Miles City	Friday	9:00 P.M.
13 KHOL	Kearney	Saturday	9:30 P.M.
3 KMVT	Omaha	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
<b>NEVADA</b>			
5 KHBV	Henderson	Saturday	5:30 P.M.
<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE</b>			
9 WMUR	Manchester	Friday	7:00 P.M.
32 WRLP	Keene	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
<b>NEW JERSEY</b>			
41 WXTV	Paterson	Wednesday	8:00 P.M.
47 WNNU	Newark	Tuesday	10:30 P.M.
41 WXTV	Paterson	Wednesday	7:30 P.M.
47 WNNU	Newark	Saturday	7:00 P.M.
<b>NEW MEXICO</b>			
8 KSWS	Roswell	Saturday	12:00 P.M.
10 KBIM	Roswell	Saturday	10:30 P.M.
7 KOAT	Albuquerque	Sunday	12:00 P.M.

NEW YORK								
36 WENY		Elmira	Saturday	10:30 P.M.	9 KRBC	Abilene	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
20 WVTR		Utica	Saturday	12:45 P.M.	11 KTWT	Fort Worth	Saturday	10:00 P.M.
6 WRGB		Schenectady	Sunday	11:00 A.M.	8 KGNS	Laredo	Saturday	10:15 P.M.
2 WKTV		Utica	Sunday	2:00 P.M.	3 KIII	Corpus Christi	Saturday	10:30 P.M.
34 WBJA		Binghamton	Sunday	2:00 P.M.	41 KWEX	San Antonio	Friday	9:00 P.M.
29 WUTV		Buffalo	Sunday	1:00 P.M.	39 KHTV	Houston	Sunday	9:30 A.M.
2 WGR		Buffalo	Saturday	3:00 P.M.	12 KSAT	San Antonio	Saturday	10:30 P.M.
8 WROC		Rochester	Saturday	1:00 P.M.	<b>VERMONT</b>			
47 CATV		New York City	Tuesday	10:30 P.M.	22 WWLP	Rutland	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
41 CATV		New York City	Wednesday	7:30 P.M.	3 WCAX	Burlington	Saturday	3:00 P.M.
CATV		New York City	Saturday	7:30 P.M.	32 WRLD	Brattleboro	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>								
28 WRDU		Durham	Saturday	4:00 P.M.	6 WTVR	Richmond	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
8 WGHP		High Point	Sunday	5:30 P.M.	10 WAVY	Norfolk	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
36 WRET		Charlotte	Saturday	6:30 P.M.	10 WSL	Roanoke	Saturday	12:30 P.M.
5 WRAL		Raleigh	Saturday	11:25 P.M.	<b>WASHINGTON</b>			
3 WBTV		Charlotte	Saturday	4:00 P.M.	6 KHQ	Spokane	Sunday	4:30 P.M.
3 WBTV		Charlotte	Saturday	8:30 P.M.	2 KYAK	Yakima	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
4		Ashville	Saturday	12:30 P.M.	13 KTVW	Seattle-Tacoma	Monday	9:00 P.M.
<b>NORTH DAKOTA</b>								
12 KCND		Pembina	Saturday	8:00 P.M.	13 KTVW	Seattle-Tacoma	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
12 KCND		Pembina	Friday	5:00 P.M.	<b>WEST VIRGINIA</b>			
4 KXJB		Fargo	Saturday	10:30 P.M.	8 WCHS	Charleston	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
11 KXMD		Williston	Saturday	10:30 P.M.	15 WTAP	Parkersburg	Saturday	11:00 P.M.
12 KXMB		Bismarck	Saturday	10:30 P.M.	4 WOAY	Oak Hill	Saturday	10:30 P.M.
13 KXMC		Minot	Saturday	10:30 P.M.	6 WHIS	Bluefield	Saturday	3:00 P.M.
11 KTHI		fargo	Sunday	11:00 AM	13 WHTN	Huntington	Tuesday	11:30 P.M.
<b>OHIO</b>								
12 WKRC		Cincinnati	Sunday	2:00 P.M.	18 WVTV	Milwaukee	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
19 WXIC		Cincinnati	Saturday	3:00 P.M.	11 WLUK	Green Bay	Saturday	10:30 P.M.
23 WAKR		Akron	Saturday	2:30 P.M.	18 WVTV	Milwaukee	Sunday	11:00 A.M.
61 WKBF		Cleveland	Saturday	6:00 P.M.	<b>ALBERTA</b>			
43 WUAB		Cleveland	Saturday	7:00 P.M.	3 CFRN	Edmonton	Saturday	1:30 P.M.
17 WJAN		Canton	Tuesday	7:00 P.M.	6 CHAT	Medicine Hat	Monday	10:40 P.M.
17 WJAN		Canton	Saturday	5:00 P.M.	2 CFAC	Calgary	Monday	1:10 P.M.
35 WLIO		Lima	Saturday	4:00 P.M.	7 CJOC	Lethbridge	Monday	12:45 P.M.
22 WKEF		Dayton	Sunday	12:00 P.M.	13 CFCN	Calgary	Monday	11:40 P.M.
24 WDHO		Toledo	Saturday	2:30 A.M.	2 CKSA	Lethbridge	Monday	11:40 P.M.
26 WSWO		Springfield	Sunday	5:30 P.M.	7 CJOC	Lloydminster	Wednesday	11:40 P.M.
23 WAKR		Akron	Sunday	3:00 P.M.	<b>WISCONSIN</b>			
2 WFCD		Mansfield	Saturday	3:30 P.M.	18 WVTV	Milwaukee	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
24 WDHO		Toledo	Saturday	2:30 P.M.	11 WLUK	Green Bay	Saturday	10:30 P.M.
<b>OKLAHOMA</b>								
6 KOTV		Tulsa	Saturday	3:00 P.M.	18 WVTV	Milwaukee	Sunday	11:00 A.M.
8 KFDO		Sayre	Saturday	4:00 P.M.	11 WLUK	Green Bay	Saturday	10:30 P.M.
4 WKY		Oklahoma City	Saturday	3:00 P.M.	18 WVTV	Milwaukee	Sunday	11:00 A.M.
<b>OREGON</b>								
12 KPTV		Portland	Saturday	8:30 P.M.	<b>BRITISH COLUMBIA</b>			
6 KOIN		Portland	Friday	11:30 P.M.	6 CHEK	Victoria	Saturday	11:00 A.M.
3 KVDO		Salem	Thursday	X8:00 PM	8 CHAN	Vancouver	Saturday	6:00 P.M.
<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>								
19 WJNL		Johnstown	Saturday	3:00 P.M.	8 CHAN	Vancouver	Sunday	11:20 P.M.
29 WFAF		Philadelphia	Wednesday	12:00 A.M.	<b>MANITOBA</b>			
48 WKBS		Philadelphia	Saturday	9:30 A.M.	7 CJAY	Winnipeg	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
22 WDAU		Scranton	Saturday	5:30 P.M.	12	Winnipeg	Friday	—
21 WHIP		Harrisburg	Saturday	4:30 P.M.	<b>NOVA SCOTIA</b>			
29 WTAZ		Philadelphia	Wednesday	11:30 P.M.	5 CJCH	Halifax	Saturday	1:30 P.M.
11 WIIC		Pittsburgh	Saturday	1:00 P.M.	5 CJCH	Halifax	Saturday	11:00 P.M.
24 WJET		Erie	Saturday	10:00 P.M.	<b>ONTARIO</b>			
17 WPHL		Philadelphia	Saturday	6:00 P.M.	9 CKLW	Windsor	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
<b>RHODE ISLAND</b>								
12 WPRI		Providence	Saturday	1:00 P.M.	11 CHCH	Hamilton	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b>								
4 WFBC		Greenville	Saturday	1:00 P.M.	11 CHCH	Hamilton	Saturday	9:30 P.M.
19 WNOK		Columbia	Saturday	2:00 P.M.	13 CKCO	Kitchner	Saturday	10:00 P.M.
5 WCSC		Charleston	Saturday	3:00 P.M.	8 CJOH	Ottawa	Saturday	6:00 P.M.
13 WBTW		Florence	Saturday	4:00 P.M.	13 CJOH	Cornwall	Saturday	6:00 P.M.
25 WOLO		Columbia	Saturday	11:15 P.M.	3 CKVR	Barrie	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA</b>								
11 KELO		Sioux Falls	Saturday	12:00 P.M.	9 CFTO	Toronto	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
6 KPLO		Reliance	Saturday	12:00 P.M.	0 CHOV	Pembroke	Saturday	2:30 P.M.
3 KDL		Garden City	Saturday	12:00 P.M.	2	Toronto	Saturday	3:00 P.M.
<b>TENNESSEE</b>								
8 WSIX		Nashville	Saturday	10:30 P.M.	6 CFCL	Timmins	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
12 WDEF		Chattanooga	Saturday	5:00 P.M.	4 CHNB	North Bay	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
19 WKPT		Kingsport	Saturday	2:30 P.M.	9 CKNC	Sudbury	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
26 WTVK		Knoxville	Saturday	6:30 P.M.	79 CITY	Toronto	Saturday	12:00 P.M.
13 WHBQ		Memphis	Saturday	2:30 P.M.	3	Toronto	Saturday	1:00 P.M.
13 WHBQ		Memphis	Saturday	2:30 P.M.	9	Toronto	Saturday	3:30 P.M.
7 WBBJ		Jackson	Saturday	10:20 P.M.	<b>SASKATCHEWAN</b>			
61 WAIP		Chattanooga	—	—	5 CKBI	Prince Albert	Saturday	12:00 P.M.
<b>TEXAS</b>								
4 KROD		El Paso	Saturday	4:00 P.M.	8 CFQC	Saskatoon	Saturday	12:00 P.M.
6 KAUZ		Wichita Falls	Friday	10:30 P.M.	5 CJFB	Swift Current	Tuesday	6:30 P.M.
7 KOSA		Midland	Saturday	1:00 P.M.	<b>QUEBEC</b>			
13 KLBK		Lubbock	Saturday	2:00 P.M.	12 CFCF	Montreal	Saturday	2:30 P.M.
3 KACB		San Angelo	Saturday	4:00 P.M.	7 CHLT	Sherbrooke	Sunday	11:00 A.M.
10 KFDA		Amarillo	Saturday	4:00 P.M.	4 CFCM	Quebec City	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
3 KACB		San Angelo	Sunday	10:30 P.M.	3 CJBR	Rimouski	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
34 KMXN		Lubbock	Friday	8:30 P.M.	9 CKBL	Matane	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
42 KHF1		Austin	Saturday	12:00 P.M.	12 CKRS	Jonquiere	Saturday	6:30 P.M.
6 KCEN		Temple	Saturday	4:00 P.M.	4 CKRN	Rouyn	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
24 KVUE		Austin	Sunday	9:30 A.M.	2 CHAU	Carleton	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
6 KFDM		Beaumont	Sunday	9:30 A.M.	10 CFTM	Montreal	Saturday	6:30 P.M.
<b>NEW BRUNSWICK</b>								
4 KROD		El Paso	—	—	6 CJPM	Chicoutimi	Monday	11:00 P.M.
6 KAUZ		Wichita Falls	—	—	7 CKRT	Riviere Du Loup	Saturday	5:00 P.M.
7 KOSA		Midland	—	—	4 CKRN	Rouyn-Noranda	Saturday	4:00 P.M.
13 KLBK		Lubbock	—	—	13 CKTM	Three Rivers	Saturday	7:00 P.M.
3 KACB		San Angelo	—	—	5 CKMI	Quebec City	Wednesday	5:30 P.M.
10 KFDA		Amarillo	—	—	9 Cable	Montreal	Wednesday	7:30 P.M.
3 KACB		San Angelo	—	—	<b>JAPAN</b>			
34 KMXN		Lubbock	—	—	10 NET	Tokyo	Saturday	7:00 P.M.
42 KHF1		Austin	—	—	6 TBS	Tokyo	Sunday	4:30 P.M.
6 KCEN		Temple	—	—	12	Tokyo	Saturday	8:00 P.M.
24 KVUE		Austin	—	—	4 NTV	Tokyo	Saturday	8:00 P.M.
6 KFDM		Beaumont	—	—	10 NET	Tokyo	Friday	8:00 P.M.



# ERIC THE RED

genuine dane  
so showmanship  
just comes  
naturally

by MATT BURNS

Traditionally, Scandinavian people are fierce and proud people, their heritage being the hardy Viking who some believe to be the first people to land on eastern North American shores.

Eric the Red carries on this tradition to the extent that he

leaves nothing to the imagination. Emerging from the dressing room decked out in huge fur boots with leather straps up to his knees, long black trunks covered with a gigantic piece of fur that serves as a jacket tied around at the waist with a piece of leather.

From the wrist to the elbow he wears leather straps, and the

Viking horn head dress, sometimes he hauls a huge bone to the ring, a truly fantastic figure, certainly an imposing one when you figure all this adorns a 6'3", 322 pound body.

Born in Odense, Denmark just two hundred feet from the home of Hans Christian Anderson at Banga Border, he played on the Danish national soccer team and was the first Danish professional soccer player to play in Canada when he performed with the Hamilton Hungaria finishing a career that included playing in the junior Olympics.

An all-round athlete, Eric excelled at swimming, boxing, wrestling, motorcycle and car racing., having raced all over Europe, driving A.J.S. and D.K.W. machines. Returning to Denmark after a successful tour of Canada playing soccer, Eric returned to wrestling and boxing, but his love was the mat and when he tried to enter competition he was disqualified because he had competed in professional sports.

It was then he decided if he could not wrestle as an amateur, he would turn professional and off to Germany where Eric represented Denmark in the professional tournaments that are pop-



December 1973 • Wrestling Monthly /37



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ular in the Rhine country. Winning the tournaments he decided that now was as good a time to see the world and went to India on a combined pleasure and business trip. Popular and successful Eric stayed in India for 18 months; he loved the Indian style of wrestling. It was on to Japan now and it was there that he was to put on forty pounds thinking that he would like to try some of the Sumo wrestlers.

After the wrestling tour of Japan, Eric headed for Canada and landed in Vancouver. "It was love at first sight, when I saw the beautiful mountains and the sea I thought to myself here is the place I want to stay".

Eric bought a nice farm between the mountains and the

ocean and decided he would stay in this peaceful and quiet place. But wrestling is a hard sport to get out of the blood. There is the travel, the interesting places, the people you meet, the excitement of pitting your skills against another man, the body contact, where you can bash heads legally, the roar of the crowd, yes, even the blood and sweat that is all part of this wonderful sport.

During the day, Eric's thoughts would go back to the ring and he would relive each match, at night the match would be dissected into the holds that had been exchanged until he finally could stand this torture no longer and drove into Vancouver to see Rod Fenton, the local promoter. Fenton, a very cautious man, was at first reluc-



Eric The Red swears the bone was covered with meat when he got it.

tant to allow the big Dane to have a match, but at last relented and Eric was back wrestling.

When Fenton wanted to book him in other cities, Eric refused. He loved wrestling but he now had a farm to take care of and travelling all over the country wouldn't help grow things. It was then he was told that there was a decision he would have to make, either the farm, or wrestling, which would it be!

For two days, Eric sat in the living room thinking. If he would return to wrestling it would be until they tear the trunks from his body. That was it, he would return to the wrestling wars.

He now mapped out a tour of Canada and the United States, sold the farm and hit the road. He had perfected a back breaker and started using the hold to defeat his opponents, teaming up with Kurt Von Hess to take the North American heavyweight championship. So colorful and popular was he that promoters all over the continent were calling for services and Eric has been kept busy since his return. I asked the Great Dane where he had picked up the nick name Animal.

Because he replied "this bone that I carry I bought with meat on it and I ate every chunk of flesh off this bone and that's the way I eat all my meat. Well it wasn't long before promoter and wrestler alike would say here comes the 'Animal'".

That's his story but after watching him wrestle I came to the conclusion that he earned that name from his style of action. I mentioned this to him after watching him chew his opponent's nose into a bloody mess.

"Who me?", "no sir!", he replied, or lied, all I like is a good book, maybe a biography or documentary, some good Danish food and lots of Danish beer, you have the wrong guy, I'm no animal, I am a man of culture".

Something I learned long ago, never argue with a wrestler, or for that matter never pick an argument with anyone who stands 6'3" weighs 322 pounds and carries a bone with him the size of a baseball bat. But I will let you be the judge, go see why fans and wrestlers alike call Eric the Red, Eric the Animal.

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# BRITISH MAT NEWS



Jackie Pallo and Son have now completed their own swimming pool in the garden at their home in Hertfordshire. It is 25' long and 12' wide with a depth of 5'. This was built after a great deal of hard work by the two wrestlers, but they are now justly pleased with the results of their hard labour. The garden looked like a bomb site for so long, they are now pleased they have everything in the garden lovely once more.

Both men were in a bad road smash and their car being a complete write-off. Neither Jackie Snr. nor Jnr. were hurt, and they arrived at the wrestling venue in good time. Jackie Snr. got a draw against Alan Colbeck and Jackie Jnr. won his bout in the first minute of the second round over Tony Scarlo.



**Tony Charles, Wales import.**

Tony Charles the Welsh light-heavyweight champion has just completed a successful tour of the U.S.A. which lasted twelve months. His brand of speed and all action wrestling skill made him extremely popular with the American wrestling fans. Tony is now matched to meet Bobby Barnes, one half of the famous 'Hell's Angels' tag team. Bobby can be very tough, mean and moody, but I feel this arrogant blond grappler is going to run into plenty of trouble against the fighting Welshman. We shall let you know the result in our next issue, along with a full report.

Leon Fortuna and Steve Grey really thrilled the wrestling fans with their tremendous showing when they fought a drawn bout. Both men displayed almost every move in their efforts to gain mastery. When the M.C. announced the verdict the crowd voiced their approval.

• • •

Clayton Thompson, winner of titles at three different weights went into action at the last moment against Honeyboy Zimba. Although Clayton now scales around 195 lb. he had to give a great deal of weight away to Zimba. Even with his increased poundage, Clayton was much the faster man, and Zimba was often at a loss as what to try next. Then he tried rough house tactics, and gained a backbreaker submission to equalize matters, as Clayton had scored a fall in the second session. Zimba got a public warning for his continued rough house methods, but after a mistimed headbutt which caused him to fall through the ropes, Zimba was wide open to the boston-crab submission on his return to the ring. Clayton was a good winner.

• • •

Many wrestling fans are wondering, why does Mick McManus continue to be fed with soft touches for his many T.V. appearances? It maddens me too, when he digs to the belly with his fingers to double up an opponent. This isn't wrestling, but if he gets away with it, why haven't any of his opponents worked out an answer to this sickening move. This could be done by planning in advance on how to avoid this belly treatment, or how best to go one better by beating McManus to the punch. Even top rate wrestlers have been weakened enough to go under to McManus later in the bout. A boxing manager would look ahead to plan an answer for his charge, and if a wrestler hasn't any manager, find the answer himself. Don't wait until the bout starts, but plan ahead, just a case of a future meeting against McManus. There are several good men at present with the Independent circuit who would account for McManus if ever given the chance. However, McManus is safe from these men, as Joint Promotions will protect him from them, by not allowing Independent wrestlers to get near to him.

It has been suggested to me that Mike Marino should be put against Mick McManus, but I wouldn't expect McManus to attempt giving away 35 lb. to such a powerful man as Marino, who holds the world, European and British Mid-heavyweight titles, and not a man in sight capable of taking these titles from him.

Welsh heavyweight champion, Gwyn Davies, made hard work of beating Barry Douglas, taking six rounds to



**Mick McManus' fans wonder why he is given easy foes for TV tiffs.**



Tony Marino, Europe's top light-heavyweight grappler.

win by two falls to one. Davies once gained the British heavyweight title, even if he didn't hold it for long, he should have had too much on the ball for Douglas, and the bout never really created enough interest to please the disappointed wrestling fans. Poor matching to my mind and not conducive to the good of wrestling as a whole. Both men are capable of better things, but not against each other.

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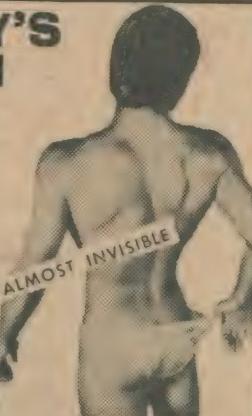
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This happy scene was a prelude to tragedy in 1971. Yvon Robert, Jr. had just pinned his opponent at the Montreal Forum and his opponent looked on in obvious delight. The former world's heavyweight champion was stricken with a heart attack several hours later and died.

# mat heritage makes Yvon Robert, Jr. good bet for title shot

by MARC THIBAUDEAU

Fans, you asked us and we have to tell you: Yvon Robert Jr., after over one year of inactivity due to serious injury, is planning a comeback and will be in action in a few months. Realising the great demand for his appearance in the ring, Yvon will have to curtail some of his numerous activities in the administrative end of wrestling. He is off on a sort of second career after having proven his worth in other facets of the sport.

It has become almost common to see College graduates joining the ranks of wrestling. For some, it's the attraction of money while for others, the sport itself is a means of expressing their athletic talents. Yvon Robert Jr. is one who was able to complete his education while developing his wrestling ability. But it was only after years of trying out different avenues of activity that he really got involved in the sport.

His father, the late Yvon Robert, one of the greatest wrestlers of our modern era, had a profound influence on Yvon Jr., not only when it comes to wrestling, but in every way. "My father had a wonderful personality, made a lot of friends everywhere he went, and when it came to human relations there was no one like him". That was the most important role Yvon played in his





The family ties have always been close and Yvon relaxes at home with his mother, Leona Robert.



Yvon is more than a muscle man. He is seen here working out the financial operations of Grand Prix wrestling.

son's life and Yvon Jr. realises it today.

He says "Wrestling has given me everything so I'm putting everything back into wrestling". Yvon Jr. is thankful today about what the sport has given him: a solid education, many friends and acquaintances as well as a goal in life. He has decided to do something constructive about the sport of wrestling and at the same time help his fellow mat men who sometimes, at the end of their career, find themselves without any other means to make a living or end up in financial need.

For that purpose, Yvon Jr. devotes a lot of his time and energy to explore business opportunities and invest in them so that he can

### **Yvon believes investing back into sport that has been good to him**

later on provide other grapplers with a good start in their second career. He has already bought a sporting goods store and invested in a machine shop and continues to search for other profitable concerns.

This is where his talents as a businessman come in very handy. Holding a Masters of Business Administration from UCLA, Yvon is able to analyse all the projects in which he is interested. Among all his other activities being on the financial side of the Grand Prix Wrestling organization takes up much of his time. Already one of the best in North America, Grand Prix Wrestling continues to grow under the direction of Yvon, Edouard Carpentier and of course matchmaker Lucien Greigoire, the best in the business. The Grand Prix Wrestling Studio, giving instruction to over 250 students every week also has Yvon wishing there were more than 24 hours in a day.

But his involvement in the sport of wrestling doesn't stop there, far from it. His concern for the sport and especially the men who go out every night to the arenas and thrill all the fans has made him come up with a few very interesting ideas which could bring



"Get 'Em up, Pardner," seems to be the game Yvon is playing with his nephews, Claude (left) and Robert St. Jean, sons of his wrestling brother-in-law.

about important changes in the great sport of wrestling. On the drawingboard in particular are insurance policies in case of injuries suffered in the ring and a pension fund which will be set up early next year.

"It cost me a lot" recalls Yvon talking about the broken back and later on the skull fracture which have kept him out of action for over a year. It is no wonder then that he would like to make sure something is done so other wrestlers who are injured don't end up in the poor house or become physically incapacitated because they couldn't afford the high costs of medical care. As for the sport itself, Yvon would like to set up a vote-in campaign to elect every year a wrestler the fans would choose as the most popular grappler. The Yvon Robert Cup, after his illustrious father, would be given to the matman the fans considered to be most deserving. Other trophies would also be handed out for other categories.

Will Yvon Robert Jr. wrestle again? Barring unforeseen circumstances, Yvon definitely plans to make a comeback: "I'll

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be going to Florida in January to start training and if all goes well I should be back in the ring in February or March". We're sure his many fans will give him a great welcome when he does step up to the mat. But this won't stop him from keeping an eye on the other projects, those that have kept him busy for the past year.

Traveling all over the circuit, solving administrative problems as well as lending an ear to the demands of wrestling fans keep him constantly aware of the state of the sport. "I care about the well-being of the wrestlers because they are the ones who keep our sport going strong and as I said, because this sport has given me everything I have today".

Yvon wants to give wrestling the spotlight it deserves in the sporting world. He knows that it surpasses in attendance all other professional sports. To him, that is enough to convince him of its worth and the value of what he is trying to achieve.

Speaking of his father, Yvon Jr. says "What's been done and done well doesn't have to be copied". He gives this answer to anyone who want him to be as great a wrestler as his father was. Yvon Jr. wants to achieve something different, using his many talents, something that will stand as an achievement in wrestling annals. If his plans work out, many people will benefit from his tireless efforts. ■

## Robert planning mat return sometime during February



Yvon, Jr. playfully shakes a powerful left hand at his late father, who won the world's title from Wild Bill Longson on Oct. 7, 1942 in Montreal.

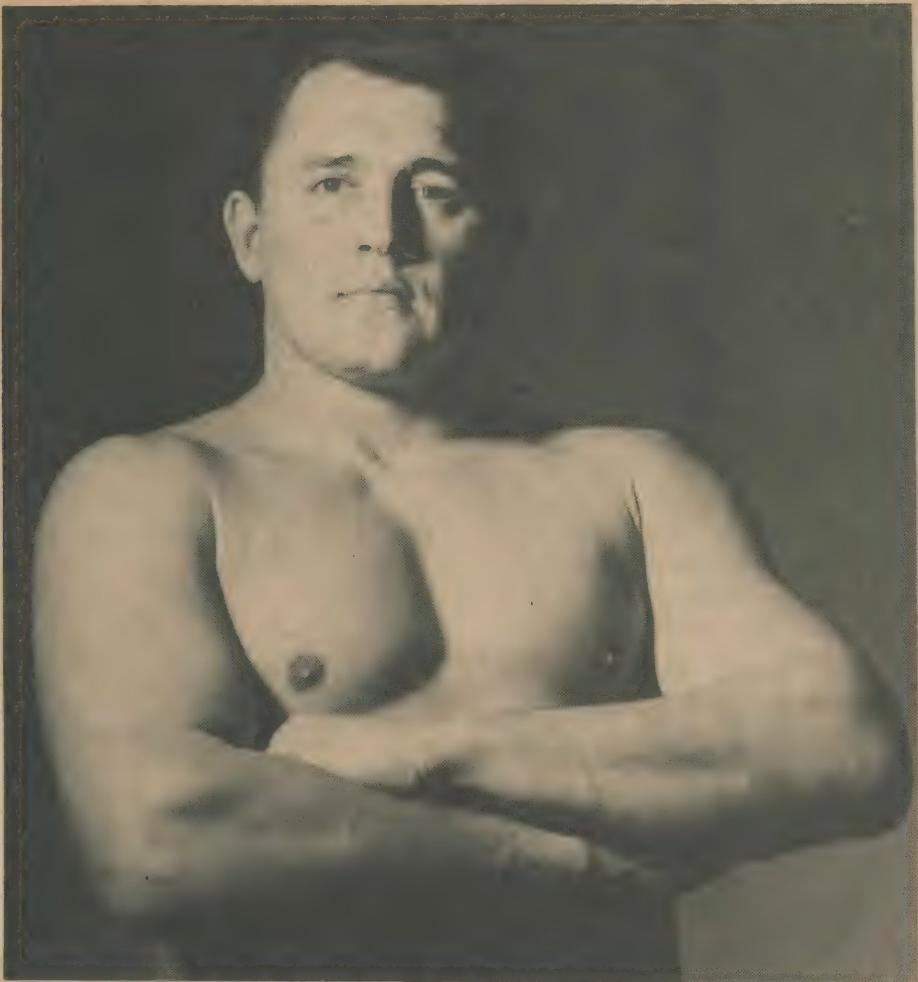


*Buck & Regale  
Cowboy  
Laine*

# BRONCO BUSTIN', THWARTED LOVE MADE FRANKIE LAINE GRAPPLER

by GILDA DIRADDO

December 1973 — Wrestling Monthly /47



Frankie Laine found rugged rodeo work helped his wrestling career.

How would you like to have owned your own horse when you were six years old, have your own cowboy outfit including spurs and boots when you were eight, and at the age of nine your very own hunting rifle? Sounds kind of nice, well, all you have to do is be born near Calgary, Alberta Canada, live on a horse ranch and have Frankie Laine's pa as your father.

By the time he was ten years old he could ride and rope as well as any ranch hand working there. At the age of thirteen he won the junior Calgary Stampede calf roping contest held every year in the Canadian west.

Although Frankie has always been associated with horses and he found time to play all sports, his favorite's being hockey and basketball during the cold winter months, soccer and baseball in the summer months.

Not thinking about wrestling as a youngster and being so involved with horses you would

wonder how he ever became interested in wrestling let alone becoming a professional for a living.

"It's really a long story", Frankie told me, "You see I started wrestling because of a woman and now that I look back on all this I have to laugh, but I am quite grateful to her because today I am happily married (not to her) and am in a profession that I love as much if not more than my horses".

Frankie went on to tell me about getting started in the rodeo circuit. "Because of my age I was in great demand, there were very few young riders that could do the things that I could with horses and a rope and none were as young as thirteen. I was billed as the "youngest ropinest, rootin, tootin rifle-slinging shooter" in the entire rodeo field.

Of course I could only perform during the summer months as my parents made sure that I acquired a decent education. By the

time I was sixteen I could ride, saddle bronc; calf rope, and bulldog with the best of them and started competing in the senior classes. Soon as I graduated from school I started this full time. I have always had a eye for a well turned ankle and one night I was busting a few bronc's in the Bee Hive state when I caught this gorgeous doll looking me over so I finish my gig and took a stroll coming up along side her. Let me tell you this girl made Raquel Welch look like an anemic boy and her eyes, wow, love at first sight.

I asked her name and we got into a conversation. I asked her if she would like some coffee so off we went. Will I steer her into a dark secluded corner and order some brandied coffees, you know candy is dandy, but liquor is quicker, so just when I am about to ask her to marry me, she lets it all out, she is going with a wrestler and he will be back in Salt Lake the following week and she can't wait for his return.

Wrestler? What do you mean a Wrestler? You mean to tell me you would prefer a wrestler to me, I can't believe it. So on she goes about how I can only throw an old bull or a baby cow and I need a horse to get me around and that if I had to compete with somebody who could do some thinking for themselves and on and on.

## LAINE CHALLENGED ROMANCE RIVAL

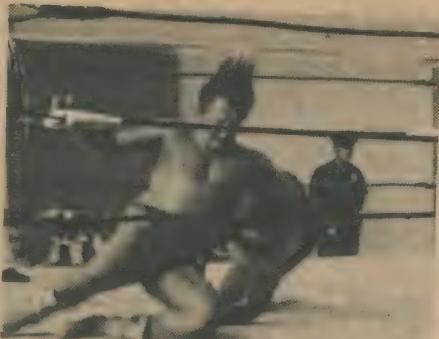
I was furious and immediately challenged him on the spot, well she just laughed at me and that enraged me more, here was the most beautiful woman I had ever seen turning me down for some overweight slob. I told her she would see for herself what I could do, so next morning down to the arena and talk to the local promoter about giving me a shot at her guy.

The promoter asked me if I had ever wrestled before, wrestled I throw bodies that weighed 1000 pounds. O.K. he replied it just so happens that I have no opponent for this guy so here is the contract, your it. Boy, did I start training I was going to show her. I didn't know too much about

wrestling but I was strong and wanted that girl.

The big night came and to make a long miserable story short he did everything but murder me. I was six weeks in the hospital and when I finally got better and was able to leave I found out she had married the wrestler. It was then I decided this was what I wanted, here I was beating the hell out of animals and couldn't take one man. I trained for two solid years after that and made myself a promise that the next time I stepped into a ring I would know what I am doing".

Well, Frankie Lajne does know what he is doing for he has turned out to be a damn good wrestler.



Frankie goes to work in TV match.



There is no doubt where Laine hails from dressed in this manner.

ler using the bull dog hold to finish off his opponents. While in California he won the Pacific Coast title against some pretty good competition and has also built himself into a solid 240 pounder spread over 6'2".

Frankie likes to eat steak and when he isn't wrestling or riding he loves to hunt, fish and sail. "I listen to country and western music a lot, I kind of grew up on it and I love to wrestle in Nashville so I can get down to the Grand Ole Opry. I also make sure that I get at least three good workouts in the gym a week."

Now a happily married man, Frankie no longer thinks about the beautiful girl he met in Utah. "You know it's a funny thing but I haven't seen him or her since I started wrestling full time, but I did meet some other girls and then I met the one I knew would put all the others to shame for my heart was gone from the moment I set eyes on her."

No children so Frankie's wife travels with him. They like to fly and they have plans for a big ranch where they will raise horses for racing. "In the mean time" Frankie said "I think I'll go doggie a few more more human bronco."

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### OFFICIAL ENTRY PUZZLE

\$31,000 CASH AWARD  
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by GEORGE McCARTHER

Chances are if you are reading the success story about some resident of Mexico, it is certain he has come from poor, humble beginnings. This be true if you are talking about Cesar Balsa, the young Mexican millionaire who started work as a waiter, or even the militant heroes like Pancho Villa or maybe Emiliano Zapata who have had their biographies told many times in movies and books.

In America, youngsters have played cowboys and Indians, cops and robbers, and today it is spaceman, or astronauts. In Mexico where only five per cent of all Mexicans earn incomes of more than \$240 a month, the chances of youngsters playing anything are very slight. Of every thousand children entering the first grade only 22 will ever complete the sixth grade.

What is the purpose of all these statistics, and what has it all to do with "Crusher" Cortez?

Well, when you are born into these statistics, they become important and all the more so if you bring yourself from humble beginnings to become part of the five per cent who earn more than \$240 a month.

Born in a small village in the Sierra Madre mountains, young Ricardo Unrigue Bermudez Cortez knew work from a very early age. As a child he was brought to the fields wrapped in his mother's rebozo, his first toys were pebbles and blades of grass. He could handle the coa, the primitive all purpose farming tool before he learned his ABCs.

The only fun for young Ricki was when he could get his father to tell of the great war and how he had fought so well that he came home with medals from the gringos.

Ricki's father left Mexico when he was fourteen, to come to the United States where he passed himself off as old enough to enlist and see action in the first World War.

Coming back wounded and ill he returned to his village to hard work and small wages but the peace and quiet found here could not be bought with money. He later married and had a family, the youngest being Ricardo. While Ricki went to work at a young age he did have his heroes, and grandpa would tell him of his



# humble birth, horrors of war sad saga of Ricki Cortez

days with the bandito Pancho Villa, who even knew grandpa by his first name.

It was a day before young Ricki had grown into his teens that he came across a page from a newspaper and there was a picture of a weight lifter flexing his muscles after winning a contest. He neatly tore the photo from the paper and folded it so that he may show his father.

"Is it true father? Are there men with muscles so big?" Assured that the picture was authentic, he would look at it daily.

"Some day my muscles will be bigger than this man". It was a short time later that Ricki's father brought his family around him and told them he was returning to the United States but this time he would be bringing a family with him. Papa Cortez had a very good friend who lived far north in the United States in a place called Michigan and that was where they would all be going.

At last the dream would come true, the dream of building muscles, and building muscles he did. The name of Ricki Cortez spread like wild fire throughout the gyms of southern Michigan, title after title.

Most Muscular, Mr. Perfect Developed, Mr. Detroit, too numerous to mention, he collected titles like some collect stamps.

The unfortunate part of posing and displaying muscles is that it is not a paying proposition and now Ricki went to work in the auto industry. One day while working out at a downtown gym he was approached by a muscular looking fellow with a pair of ears that looked like two tangerines. He was a professional wrestler and had watched Ricki working out and suggested that he was putting all that strength and power to waste.

"I have no intention of putting this strength to waste. I joined the U.S. Marines this morning" was the reply. Ricki Cortez and the Marine First Division hit Korea at the same time and if anyone wished for action this was the place. One of three remaining Marines of E. company, he was assigned to D. company, then F. company where he was squad leader, fighting the battles of Bunker Hill, Siberia, The Hook, and many others.

Ricki participated in one of the



Ricki Cortez has his opponent in serious trouble, working him over in the corner . . .

greatest bombardments in the history of wars with the 357 Peoples Regiment. Ricki came through that scrap but not before he managed to get a concussion, three slugs in the leg, Malaria, and dysentery. This is quite an accomplishment considering he served as machine gunner and their life expectancy in combat is two minutes. Coming home to the U.S. he had surpassed his dad in medals with three Silver Stars, two Bronze Stars, three Purple Hearts and a Korean citation.

After discharge Ricki came home with one thing in mind, he wanted to become a professional wrestler. He had thought about it since the day he had talked to the wrestler at the gym. During nights on the outpost in Korea, his thoughts would go back to America and how he would bring his awesome strength to the ring, yes, he had something to look forward too.

But becoming a professional wrestler means a lot of work, and after talking to a local promoter he was put in touch with Bert Ruby, who immediately could see the great potential in the Mexican muscleman. So strong was Ricki that he became known as "Crusher" Cortez and promoters fought to have him on their cards.

Fantastic, Tremendous, Stupendous, the superlatives applied to this new sensation.

Winner of the rookie of the year in his first term. Cortez was on

his way and then as quickly as he came on the scene, he was gone, nobody seemed to know where. It was as if the world has swallowed him up. Then one day not long ago I was stopping over in Pittsburgh, Pa. and turned wrestling on WIIC channel 11 and I couldn't believe my eyes. Bill Cardell was saying, "be sure to see this fellow on a big card coming up" — Ricki "Crusher" Cortez and he never looked better, but now he was rough and mean.

I made up my mind I would see that match and try and talk to him. The following Friday I was back in Pittsburgh and after his match I went back to see him. "Ricki" I said, "where have you been?" He looked just as I had seen him last, very muscular and in fantastic shape. "I have had a lot of personal problems and one of them would not allow me to travel and this business is a travelling business so I left wrestling for a while, but I'm back now and a victory tonight will line me up for a title match".

"I am hell bent and God help those who try to stand in my way, I have some quick catching up to do and I will walk over anybody to achieve my goal." Ricki "Crusher" Cortez has certainly changed in one respect he is meaner, rougher and even tougher than I remember him, plus he now has George Cannon as an adviser. As he walked away flexing I thought "God help those who will stand in his way".

# JACK DEMPSEY IMPARTIAL



## WRESTLERS OR BOXERS, HE'D FLATTEN 'EM ALL

BY JACK WELSH

Jack Dempsey is 78 years young and even now in the December of his life, the former world's heavyweight champion remain forever one of true legends from the Golden Age of sport.

Gone from the Roaring Twenties are such luminaries as Ruth, Thrope, Cobb, Nevers, Sande, Hagen, Lewis, Morenz, Jones and Stecher.

Dempsey was Mr. Boxing during his reign from July 4, 1919 until Sept. 23, 1926 but it wasn't until he lost the title to Gene Tunney and failed to win it back that the man in the street truly took him to his bosom.

The public forgot and obviously forgave Dempsey for the "slacker label" he wore for wor-

king in the shipyards during World War I... they forgave the near certain rumor that he had plaster in his gloves when he ruined Jess Willard in Toledo to win the title... they forgave his actions in drawing the color line and refusing to fight the great Harry Wills.

Dempsey, who served as a Navy lieut. commander in World War II, could do no wrong as a former champion. Jack was sought for all occasions and he responded warmly.

Standing six feet, one, the Manassa Mauler rarely weighed more than 189 pounds in his prime but his actions in the ring were pure savage.

And perhaps that's why Dempsey was so attractive to wrestling and boxing promoters all over the world.

One Chicago sports writer

summed up Dempsey rather well on Jan. 24, 1919 after watching him dispose of one Homer Smith in 1:55 of the first round in Racine.

"Dempsey reminds me of a wild beast. He scowls, grinds his teeth and seems uncontrollable. As Jack Kearns spoke to him before the short battle last night, I got the impression that he had his finger on a cannon and was getting ready to squeeze it."

After losing his crown to Tunney in the famed Battle of the Long Count, Dempsey laid out for four years and in addition to officiating wrestling matches, the ex-champ fought 34 exhibitions between Aug. 20 and Dec. 20, 1931.

Although they were one and two rounds, most ending in knockouts, the exhibition tour drew 230,155 persons who paid



Dempsey the fighter and Kearns the manager, what a combination!

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PROMOTERS FROM  
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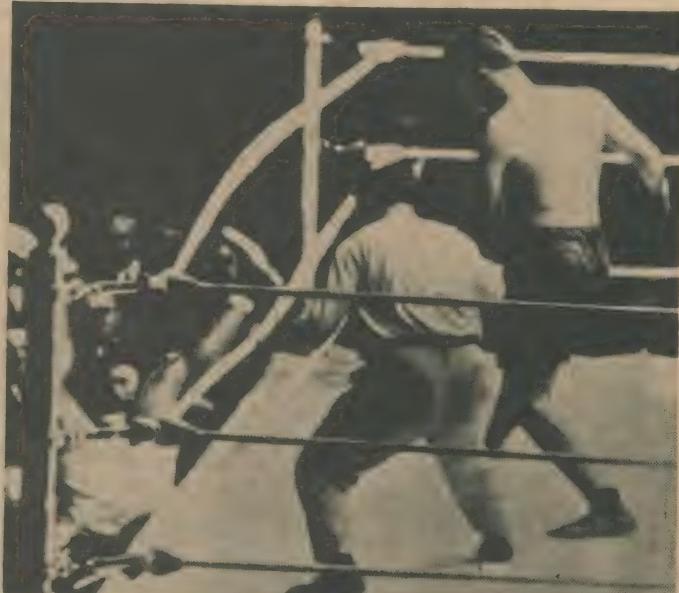


Dempsey VS Willard, a fight which stands out in the annals of boxing.



Gene Tunney on the receiving end during the famed seventh round.

**DEMPSEY'S BIG PUNCH  
OFFSET LACK OF  
WRESTLING HOLDS KNOWLEDGE**



Luis Firpo stands poised as he watches Dempsey tumble out of the ring.



Dempsey and Tunney on friendly terms but it wasn't always that way.

**"WHAT WOULD  
I HAVE DONE  
AGAINST  
STRANGLER LEWIS?  
STAY AWAY  
FROM THAT  
HEADLOCK OF HIS"**



Former foes Dempsey and Carpentier do some friendly sparring as Dan McAlinden watches.



Willie Pastrano and Mickey Walker receiving awards and being congratulated by Dempsey and Ali.

\$477,260. This is a record which still stands today.

Naturally, promoters tried to get Jack to consider a mat career and with much reluctance, Dempsey finally agreed.

"I just wasn't big enough at 189 even in those days. Today a wrestler weighing 225-230 is considered a little guy in the game. Besides I really didn't know too many holds to begin with."

The fans and the promoters didn't care if Dempsey didn't know much about wrestling. He still had that big punch —

usually the last thing a fighter loses and the turnstiles clicked in hopes Jack would plant it on an opponent.

Jack grappled with such men as Bull Montana, who was close to his size, and made friends with that Italian giant, The Great Antonioni, among other mat stars of the thirties.

Though a far superior fighter despite his smallish stature, Dempsey never achieved the success on the mat enjoyed by Primo Carnera another ex-heavyweight titleholder.

"Primo was a wrestler in Italy before Leon See brought him to America in 1930. He was 260 pounds and stood six foot, five. He wasn't as bad a fighter as some people would have you believe but he was probably a better wrestler," Dempsey opined.

When Jack turned briefly to the mat, New York promoters were trying to match him with Ed "Strangler" Lewis but the match never came off.

"I never felt too bad about that. Lewis was a great wrestler. Somebody once asked me how I would beat him if we ever met. I said 'keep moving and stay out of his way if I could. I know I wouldn't want my head getting in the way of Ed's famous headlock,'" Dempsey was laughing on the square.

But the ex-champion wasn't idle very long. Offers poured in from all over the world for appearances to referee boxing and wrestling matches.

Dempsey had one price \$1,500 per showing, take it or leave it. Very few promoters could afford to leave it.

Jack had the respect of the wrestlers and they knew he was really the third man in the ring. Dempsey wouldn't hesitate to uncork a right cross if a grappler got too far out of line. And that's just what the public wanted.

Back in July, 1940 there were several incidents involving wrestlers which forced Dempsey to put on the gloves again.

While on one of his refereeing tours through the south and mid-west, Dempsey suddenly found several mat men were harassing him outside the ring.

Typical was a remark made by Cowboy Luttrell during an Atlanta stopover.

"So you're Dempsey, eh. You don't look so tough to me. I'd probably take you with one hand tied behind me."

Now remember Dempsey was 45 years old but that didn't make any difference to the Manassa man as he glared behind those dark bittle-brows.

Dempsey cocked his right fist — the same one that had knocked out Luis Firpo, Georges Carpentier, Billy Miske and Willard. Jack was right on target with his punch and Luttrell went down in a heap.

But the westerner wasn't satisfied. He wanted revenge and begged the promoter to match him and Dempsey in a 10 three-minute rounds bout. Jack was quick to accept.

The pride and joy of Kearns in

days gone by was right on time. Luttrell probably figured he'd tie Dempsey up and go to work in the clinches with some pressure holds.

Luttrell miraculously survived the first round but in the second, Dempsey showed he still had a touch of his former greatness and kayoed the mat man in 1:45.

The date was July 1 and the obvious publicity on the wire services prompted another wrestler to challenge Dempsey two weeks later.

Bull Curry was the grappler. The scene was Detroit. And the rugged, mean Curry didn't fare any better. Dempsey belted the Bull out in two rounds.

Jack's swan song in a ring with the gloves on came July 29, 1940 in Charlotte, N.C. Once again a wrestler Elias Bashara was the opposition and once again the proceedings were all over in two rounds, Dempsey starching his man.

Dempsey hasn't lost his zest for life. He recently returned from a trip to London to visit old friends and still maintains the operations of word-famed Jack Dempsey's Restaurant in mid-Manhattan.

It has been a long, long time since Jack fought a six-round draw with Young Herman on Aug. 17, 1914 in Ramona, Colo.

But before he called it a career, Dempsey proved he wasn't partial. Be it boxers or wrestlers, he'd knock them kicking all the same...

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From this . . . to this  
 in 20 seconds



# gossipin' to a finish

Did you know that Killer Kowalski is now wrestling with a mask even though everyone recognizes his style and physical features. Some say that he wears some sort of foreign object under the mask on his forehead in order to have a more powerful cocomump. A lot of wrestlers are now using his famous knee drop hold so he had to retaliate with the use of this tactic.



Viviane Vachon very popular in Peach state. She is youngest of thirteen children. Only three of the thirteen have gone to wrestling world: world famous Mad Dog and Paul "Butcher" Vachon. Paul left for a while to become promoter but he has decided to make a comeback as heavyweight mat star. So expect to see the Butcher starting to throw the meat around and the fans will again be singing "Chop Chop Sweet Charlotte" . . . wonder what Patti Page will say about that.

• • •

Verne Gagne's activities suspended for a while. Reason: he will star in movie "The Wrestler" scheduled to come out in a few weeks. The film also features William Asnor (Lou of "Mary Tyler Moore Show").

N.W.A. champ Jack Brisco defeated Dory Funk Jr. on many occasions but only in non-title bouts . . . Our man in La Republique du Zaire or

the Congo if you prefer, Mayavangua Ntinu Kinsaku tells us that the African Continent's population is wild about sports, especially wrestling, pro and amateur. Pro wrestling still has a long way to go though before it attains the popularity it enjoys in America. Mayavangua is planning to come to our shores and try to make a go of a pro career himself.

• • •

The Giant, alias Jean Ferre, a.k.a. Andrew the Giant, trained a year and a half for a very special event. His goal: to beat Muhammad Ali. Joe Frazier did it for him so Ferré switched to wrestling. In case you didn't know, he's 7 foot 4 inches and weighs 423 pounds. That's all very nice but at that size you're faced with a few problems: when he's on a plane, how does he sit down? He travels in first class section, lifts the armrest and uses two seats. How does he drive his car? He drives a special Cadillac with sliding roof (he has to watch out for those low bridges).

How does he sleep when he's on tour? He takes four single beds, aligns them sideways and dreams of the Alps.

• • •

Allen and Mike work as bouncers at the Eugene matches and do an exceptional job of handling most incidents with diplomacy, but, they can get rough if the need arises. They also serve as ushers, cheerfully directing fans to their seats, answering questions and generally helping in any way they can.

It is a thankless job and both Allen and Mike are to be commended for their courtesy and tactfulness as well as their genuine friendliness during a hard and hectic job."

• • •

Nashville's ace promoter Nick Gulas has to be the promoter-of-the-year. He always comes up with new wrinkles to give wrestling an even bigger place in fans' sport interest.

This time it's a 31 MAN TRIPLE CHANCE BATTLE ROYAL with the winning team receiving \$4,000. Here are the rules for the Triple Chance Battle Royal: two rings are used and there are two referees — one in each ring, and at the sound of the opening bell all 31 men are in ring 1. A grappler is eliminated if he is thrown from ring 1 into 2 and from there over the top rope of ring 2. So as you can see, a grappler has three chances to survive in this Royal and therefore the term "Triple Chance" comes from this. When there are two men left in ring 1 and two men left in ring 2, the two in ring 1 meet the two in ring 2 and the winner of this tag battle receives the \$4,000.00 purse.

Every grappler knows that they can't all be in the final four, so each uses all of his strength and talents and hopes he will be one of the last four to survive this Royal and vie in the tag battle for the \$4,000.00 big purse.

• • •

The Oklahoma Cyclone had a couple of good heads in their most recent edition. "Muchnik gives Race new belt, Race gives it to Brisco!!" and Terry Funk goes after a \$5,000. 'Godfather' bounty if he breaks the shoulder of #1 Jack Brisco." . . . Did you know that Edouard Carpenter's uncle Georges fought Jack Dempsey for the World Heavyweight Boxing title in front of 100,000 plus and for services rendered he received a quarter of a million dollars. That was back in 1921.



Missouri State Champion Gene Kiniski roars that he is 'Uncrowned World Champ', and here's why: "Thirty-six days before Jack Brisco disposed of Race, I defeated Brisco in St. Louis," Gene growled. "I don't dispute the legitimacy of Brisco's championship, but I do say that only fate has kept me from being the World Heavy-weight Champion at this very moment."

Savannah, Georgia . . . Because of the recent crack down by the National Wrestling Alliance, on rule viola-

tors, the N.W.A. Georgia Tag Team Champions, The Infernos, managed by J.C. Dykes, were stripped of their coveted titles because of intentionally getting themselves automatically disqualified to retain said title.

• • •

A funny thing happened on the way to the Forum (Montreal Forum, Canada): a recent card featured Mad Dog Vachon and Killer Kowalski against another tag team names withheld by request). Kowalski took the first fall from one of their opponents and for some still unexplained reason, the loser disappeared and wasn't seen for the rest of the evening. His partner thus had to face Kowalski and Vachon all by himself. Killer was up on the top rope ready to annihilate the guy with his lethal knee drop, and win the second fall. Unfortunately, Mad Dog got in the way and was hit by the deadly knee. Dazed and angered he tried to get at Kowalski who defended himself by trying to tear off Vachon's ear as he had previously done to Yukon Eric, Jos Leduc and Chief War Eagle. It took six other husky wrestlers to separate the two.

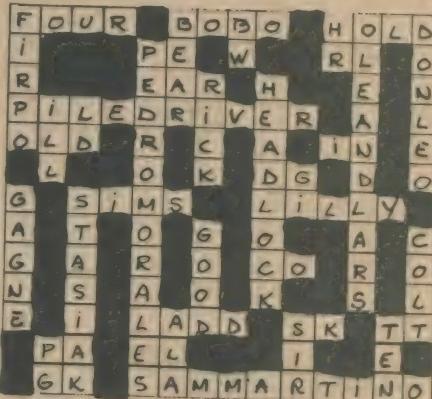
Later on in the evening, as Kowalski was being interviewed, Vachon sneaked up behind him and broke a chair on the Killer's head. By the way we checked a local hospital and found out that sixteen stitches were required to close the wound. It was Vachon's turn to start biting Kowalski's ear off and that was the beginning of the now famous battle of the ears which culminated at Expos' Jarry Park stadium in front of 30,000 spectators. Vachon took the Grand Prix Wrestling Belt and the Battle of the Ears. Proxy revenge for Yukon Eric.

• • •

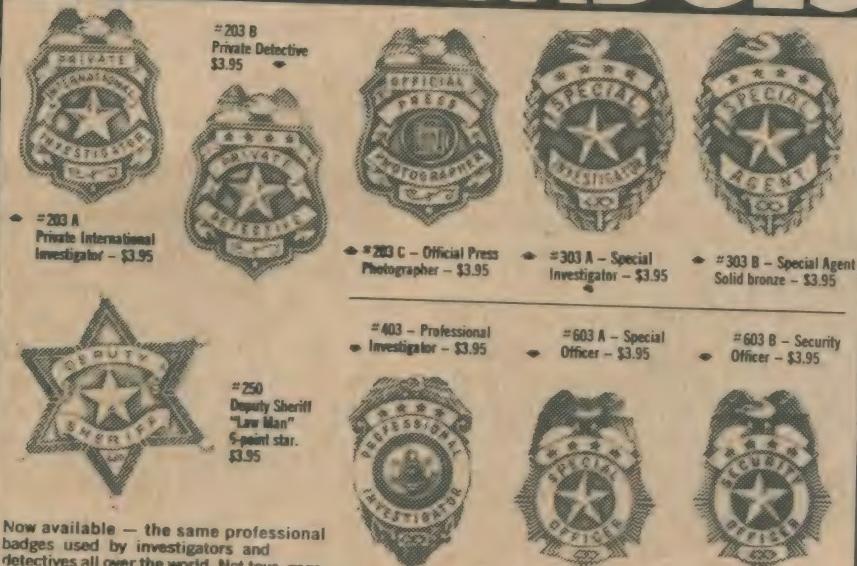
Oregon's monthly publication, Ringside Reporter, has an interesting comment in its latest edition: "One of the toughest jobs connected to professional wrestling is that of the bouncers. They have to try and maintain some semblance of order among the crowd and escort the grapplers through throngs of irate fans. Bouncers are subjected to both physical and verbal abuse, by fans and wrestlers alike, but without them, mayhem would surely prevail at the majority of the matches."



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# MIXED MAT MATCH OF MIDGETS, GLAMAZONS DELIGHTS SOUTHERNERS

by ARCHIBALD SMITH



Toni Rose and Debbie Johnson go at it hot and heavy while Billy The Kid stands outside the ropes and works over Miss Johnson in the white bathing suit.

Mixed matches in professional wrestling are a rarity — even in this day of gimmicks, drama and showmanship.

But it did happen recently in Greenville, S.C. with two full grown women and two midget grapplers going at it in the best two out of three falls.

Miss Toni Rose teamed up with Billy The Kid and Debbie Johnson paired with Farmer Pete in a genuine Battle of The Sexes.

A crowd of 3,000 jammed the house to the rafters and more than got their money's worth when the mighty mites and the glamazons squared off with no holds barred.

Under the conditions of the match, the midgets battled each other and the gals took their turns after a tag up. Basically the women were in the ring against each other but some times the teams mixed up their signals and the little guys frequently found themselves caught in the middle as the fems matched strength.

But there were moments when the midgets had a chance for revenge — like the time Billy The Kid was outside the ropes and Toni Rose slammed Miss Johnson into the corner post.

Billy pounded Debbie on the head and pulled her hair without restraint. Of course, Farmer Pete had a chance to avenge his teammate when Miss Johnson had Toni in a similar position.

In the first fall it looked like Billy The Kid and Toni had everything locked up when Farmer Pete jumped in the ring and gained the verdict with a headlock on the Kid.

Coming back in the second stanza, Toni evened the match when she stunned Debbie with a flying drop kick and followed up

with a forearm smash that stunned her opponent, making Miss Johnson easy prey for the pin.

The tempo continued to mount in the final fall with both teams taking turns as the aggressors. First Billy The Kid had Farmer Pete one second away from the winning pin.

Then Toni came roaring back and rocked Johnson with several body slams that nearly left her unconscious.

Finally Farmer Pete and Debbie suddenly came up with some new strategy that ultimately gave them the victory.

Miss Johnson was in the ring with Toni and appeared ready to be had as Miss Rose applied the pressure with a step over toe hold.

Perhaps Toni didn't realize she was in her adversary's corner and Debbie managed to tag up with Farmer Pete.

Billy The Kid was looking the other way, apparently letting Tony wrap up the verdict. It was a disastrous mistake. The Farmer dashed across the ring and flipped The Kid into the action.

Applying full pressure, Farmer Pete finally forced Billy The Kid to submit after 10 minutes into the third fall.

It is highly unlikely wrestling fans in the United States will ever see a woman wrestle a man straight away for obvious reasons.

Most women wrestlers vary in weight from 135 to 155 pounds and even with top flight mat ability they would be no match for a male grappler weighing anywhere from 210 to 270 pounds.

Although popular in Britain, there are no welterweight and middleweight wrestlers in North America today — certainly nothing close to the skill of Jack Reynolds, Blacksmith Pedigo and Billy Thom of the thirties.

However, Mildred Burke, the greatest woman wrestler who ever lived and who originated the distaff side of the sport, started it all on the carnival circuit in 1935.

"I'd take on all comers and that included men. I guess I must have wrestled over 200 males when I was starting out. That's the way I learned. There was nobody to teach me. Only trial and error," Mildred once explained.

Miss Burke learned her lessons rather well. She rarely lost in over 6,000 matches and retired as undefeated champion.



Billy The Kid gives Farmer Pete a hard way to go in this heated action while his female partner, Toni Rose looks on from outside the ropes.

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# voice of the wrestling fans

## WRESTLING MONTHLY POLL CONDUCTED BY MICHAEL ARNDT

QUESTION: Has wrestling changed during the years?

**JOHN TURNER** — (Torrance, Calif)

"Yes, wrestling did change through the years and you'd see now more brutal matches than even before. Wrestling in general, has changed quite fast as of wrestling in the 1940's through 1950. Wrestling in the 40's — 50's had more punishing holds and you'd see a match finish real early. Here, today, wrestling is a little drawn out and the matches are bloody."

**JAY FUENTES** (Los Angeles, Calif)

"No, wrestling didn't change because I think it's gotten very brutal and sadistic. There are a lot of maniacs today I'd like to see get rid of. We have a bundle of wrestlers in the N.W.A. I'd like to see them get their arms and legs broken. No, wrestling didn't change, just the wrestlers."

**PAUL DORSAY** — (Yuma, Arizona)

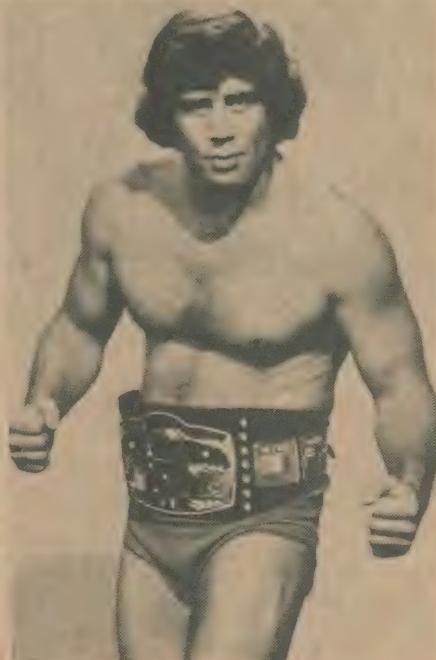
"Yes and no. No because they have always controversial title claims, wrestlers with pet submission holds, etc. and yes, because the styles of wrestlers have changed tragically — from the early scientific styles of Tom Jenkins and Gorgeous George to the brawling tactics of the Sheik, Bruiser and Jerry Graham."

**MY COMMENTS:** — (Michael W. Arndt)

"It is not really wrestling that has changed. It's the wrestler that has changed. Wrestlers are bigger, stronger, and sometimes managed by a former or a washed up wrestler or a smart individual who'll stop at nothing to get to the top of the heap. Wrestling is not publicized as it should be. Afterall, it is a sport and draws great fans."



Is it wrestlers or wrestling that has changed?



It seems everybody likes Brisco!

QUESTION: "Are you glad Jack Brisco is the new N.W.A. heavyweight champion?"

**GUS MILLER** — (Newark, California)

"Jack Brisco is a very talented wrestler and deserves the championship. Though, I've only seen him wrestle a few times. Harley Race was no match for Brisco. I think it would have been mere of a challenge if Dory Funk would have lost it to Jack Brisco instead of using Race as a tool not to make it non-scientific. Jack Brisco will probably remain champ for about 2 years until someone comes along and beats him.

**GEORGE MONTGOMERY** — (Bloomington, N.J.)

"Yes, I guess Jack did a good job in campaigning! He has some competition with The Sheik, Brazil, The Funkds, Etc. Would like to see him come into W.W.W.F. where it's also rough. In fact, it's rough all over."

**MURRAY KASNOWITZ** — (Flushing, N.Y.)

"I am glad Jack Brisco is the new N.W.A. heavyweight champion."

**PAUL ASHWORTH** — (Ashland, Massachusetts)

"I am glad Jack Brisco is the new N.W.A. champ. Since I like him. I heard he is going to challenge Gagne & Morales. That's another reason why I'm glad me is the N.W.A. champ."

### MY COMMENTS:

I'm glad, real glad Jack Brisco is the New N.W.A. champ because I never really liked Funk, Jr. He thought he was some god or something. It won't be long until finally Jack Brisco will face Funk, Jr. again and Brisco will show Funk, Jr. who's the champ and how a champ should act in a ring and outside the ring.

I hope Jack Brisco will reign champ for many years, and Jack let us show the fans that you are Still better than Funk and Harley Race and all the rest who had the N.W.A. belt and to reign champ and to give them Hell.

# Wrestling

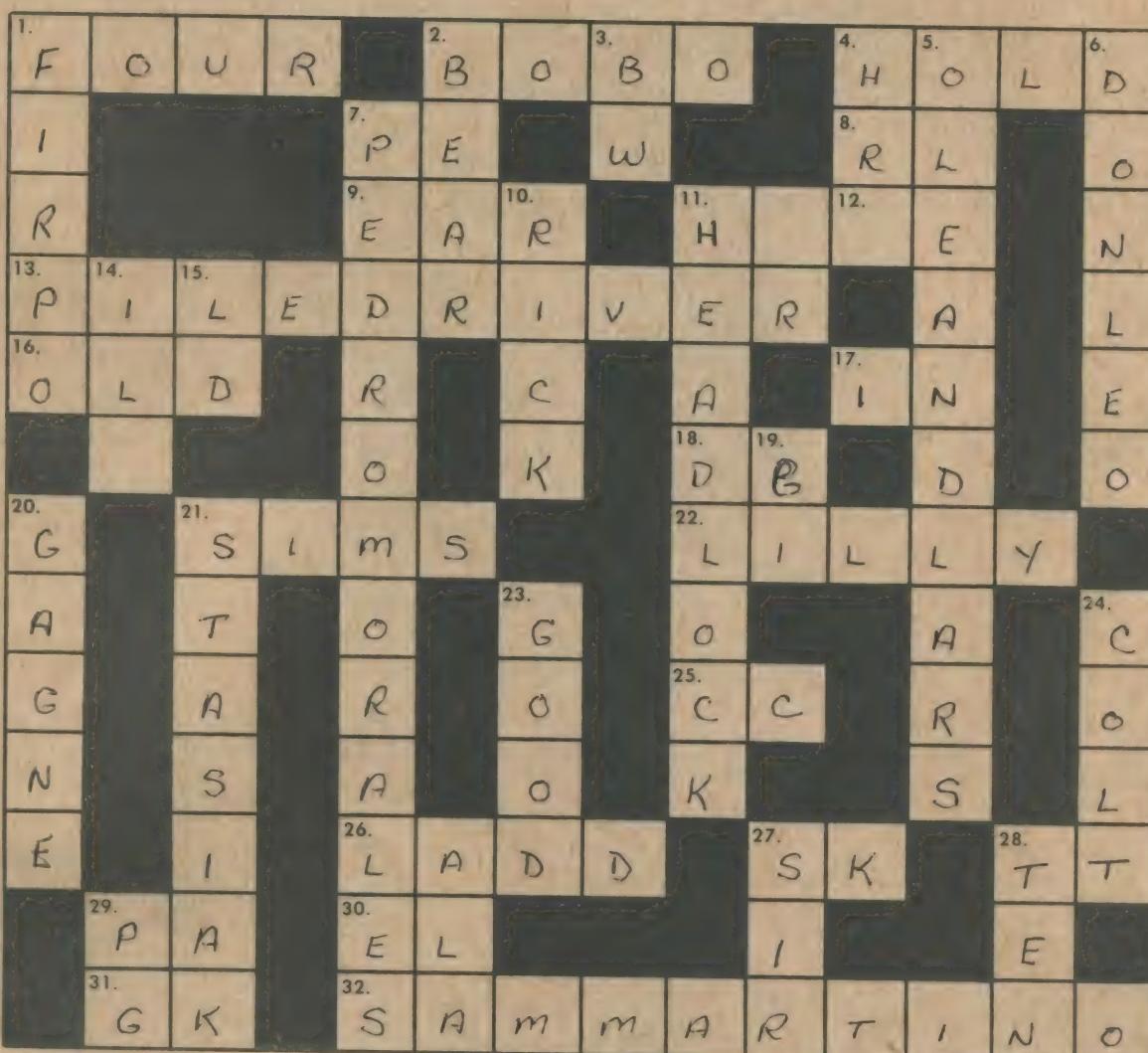
THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF WRESTLING

MONTHLY

# puzzle

## CROSSWORD

This puzzle was submitted by 14-year old Thomas Ohanian of Providence, R.I.  
Keep those puzzles coming in, fans!



### DOWN

- 1—"Wild Bull of the Pampas" Pampero—
- 2—This hold can easily break a man's ribs — hug.
- 3—Initials of Cowboy wrestler Bill—
- 4—Initials of former N.W.A. Champion, who lost to Jack Brisco.
- 5—The Anderson brothers.
- 6—Jonathan.
- 7—Current W.W.W.F. Champion, —
- 10—Luka, rookie wrestler.
- 11—Most wrestlers use this hold.
- 12—Initials of wrestler Carlos Rocha.

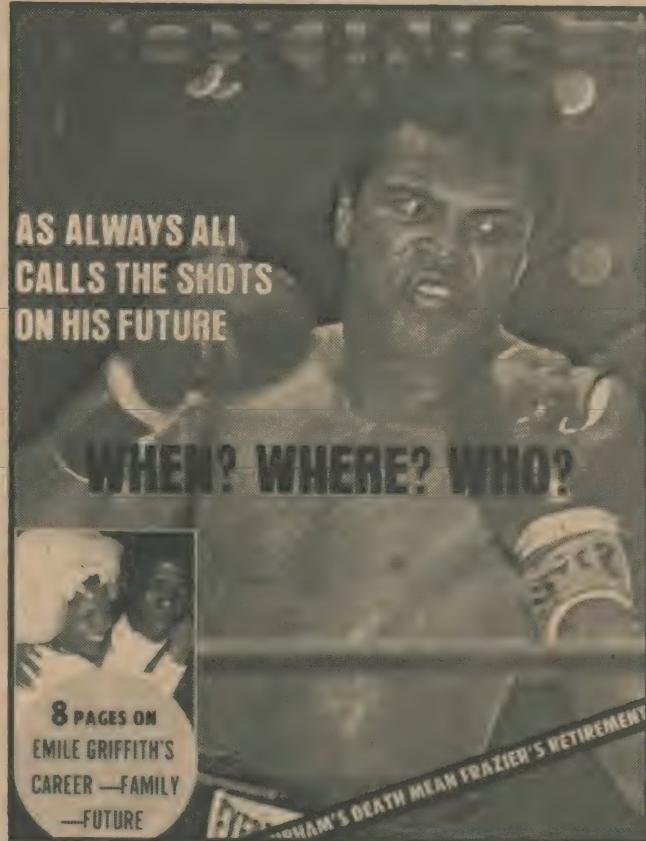
- 14—Another word for sick.
- 15—Initials of promoter Dusek.
- 19—What a man in the Army is called.
- 20—A.W.A. King —
- 21—Stan "The Man" —
- 23—Opposite of bad.
- 24—Wrestler Chris —
- 27—Most managers want to be called this
- 28—When a wrestler is thrown out of the ring, he has — seconds to get back in
- 29—Initials of — Gallagher

### ACROSS

- 1—Wrestling hold, figure —— leglock
- 2—Popular grappler, —— Brazil
- 3—Most wrestlers have a finishing —
- 7—L.M.N.O, — e
- 8—Initials of tennis pro —— Laver
- 9—Yukon Eric had only one after his bout with Killer Kowalski.
- 11—Initials of wrestler —— Calhoun
- 13—The most dangerous hold in wrestling.
- 16—Most people get ——
- 17—Opposite of out.
- 21—Popular grappler, Duke ——
- 22—Lady wrestler —— Thomas
- 25—Initials of wrestler —— O' Cannon
- 26—Ex-football star, now wrestler, Ernie —
- 27—Initials of wrestler —— King
- 28—Initials of wrestler Tito ——
- 29—Opposite of Ma
- 30—Masked wrestler —— Olympico
- 31—Initials of actor Gene Kelly.
- 32—Ex-Heavyweight Champion, Bruno —

See answer page 57

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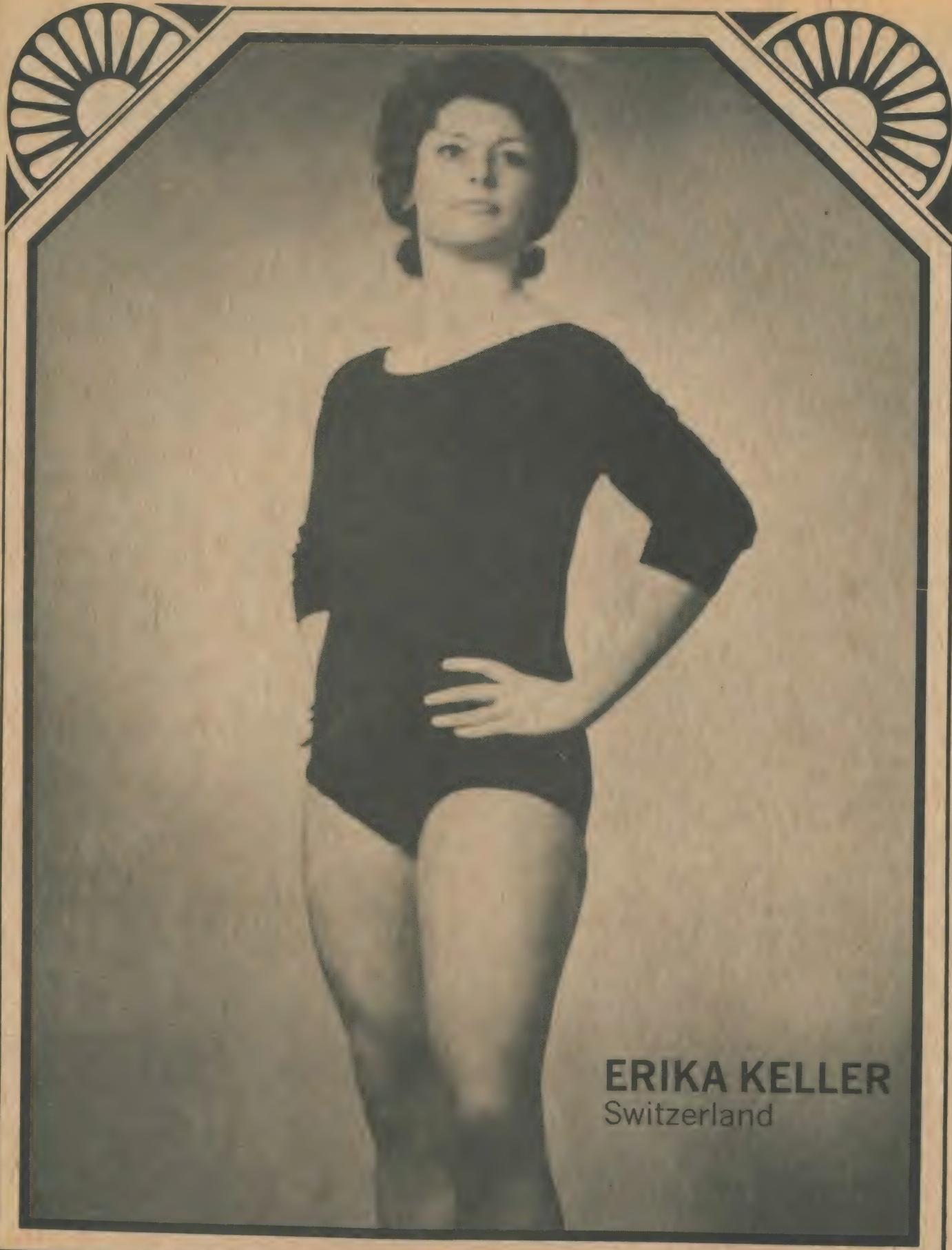
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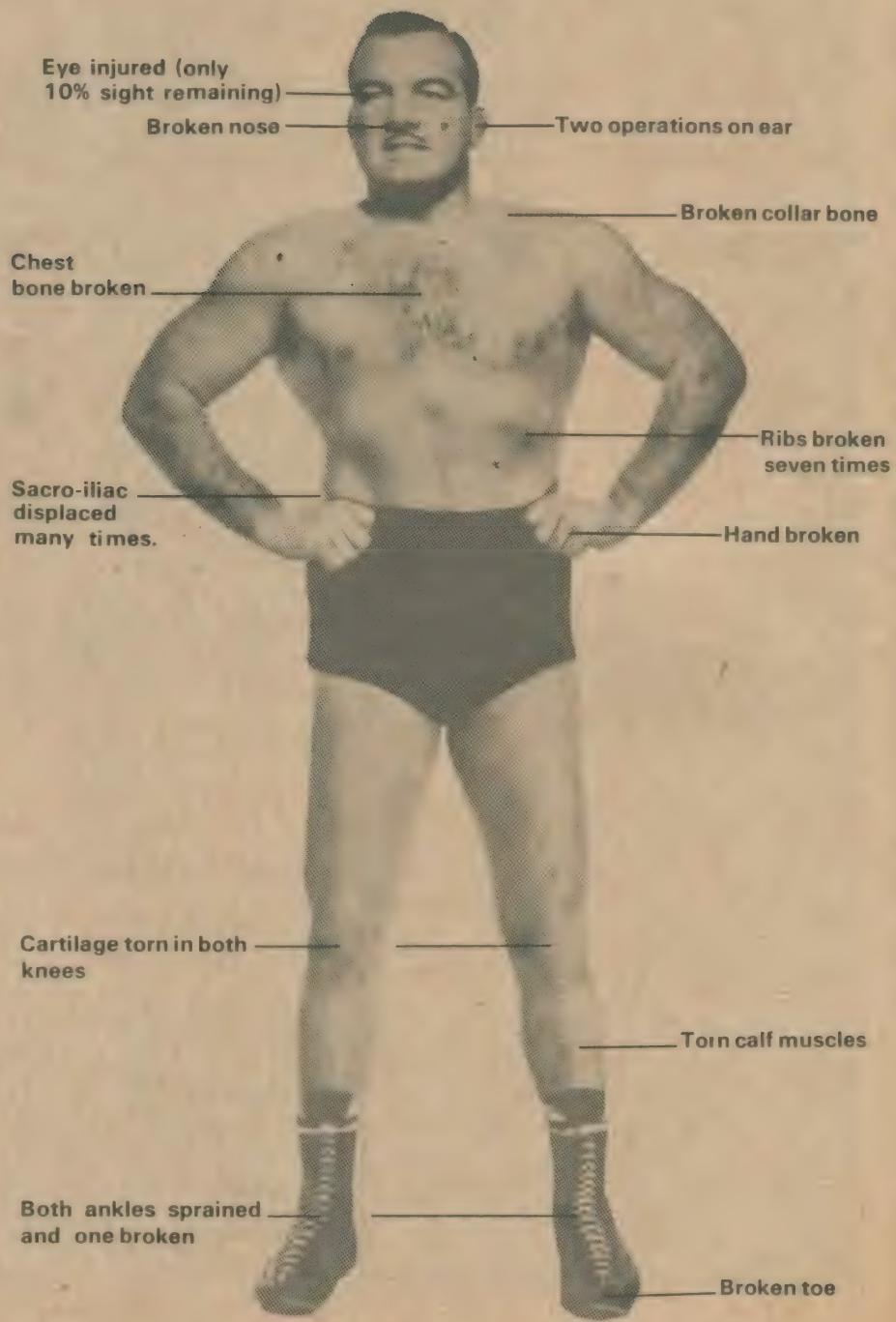


**ERIKA KELLER**  
Switzerland

# for your scrapbook!

## WHIPPER BILLY WATSON

Injuries in professional sports are part of the game, so much in fact that you wonder why in heaven's name the athletes who suffer the pain as well as the frustration of being out of action don't just hang them up. The fact is that being in superb physical condition, pro athletes, especially wrestlers, can recuperate much faster than your average office clerk or plumber. Looking through our files, we came up with some very interesting facts concerning Whipper Billy Watson. As you can see, the Whipper had a few problems during the length of his career, but he still managed to become N.W.A. Heavyweight Champion, first in 1947 and again in 1956 when he took the title from Lou Thesz who regained it from Billy eight months later. Whipper Billy Watson's career ended on a sad note however when, as fate would have it, he was involved in a car accident which left him having to walk with the use of a cane.



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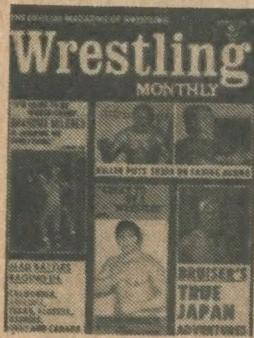
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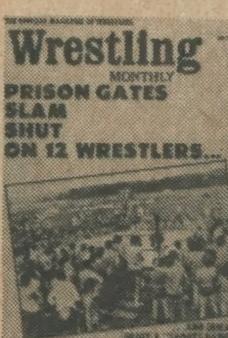
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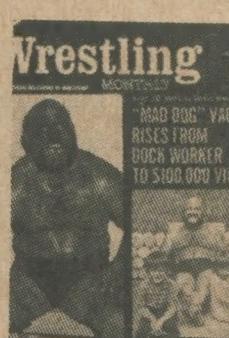
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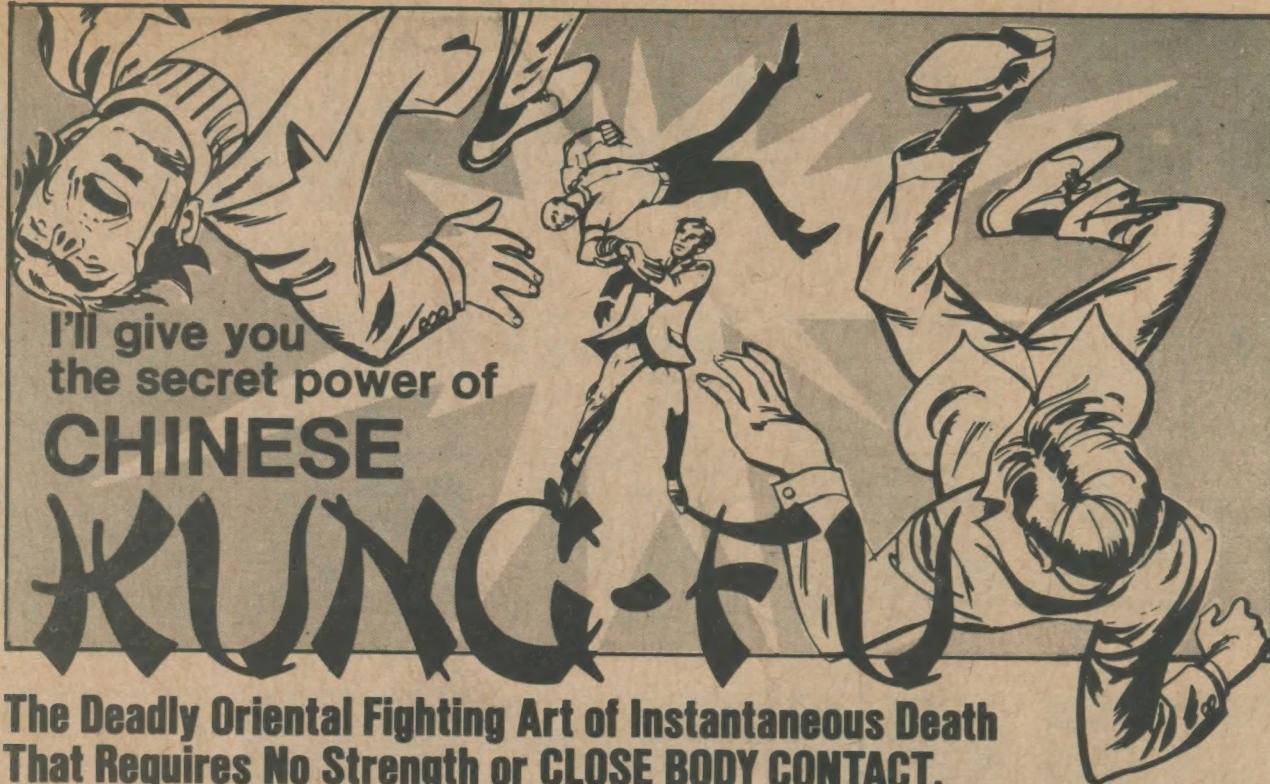
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- ★ Faster, deadlier and easier than Judo, Savate or Karate.

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### THE SECRET OF KUNG FU REVEALED AT LAST

KUNG FU is a fantastic method of self-defense that was buried in the mysteries of the past. Once a part of a mystic Oriental rite, its deadly fighting secrets were only taught by Shaolin Priests to those considered worthy only after years of preparation and testing. KUNG FU was hidden from the public! Yet in spite of serious efforts to keep it from the world, word of its amazing power spread. Masters of other fighting arts soon learned to fear and respect its techniques. They learned that KUNG FU harnesses certain dormant forces within you, enabling you to disable and destroy with just a lightning flick-of-the-wrist, and that KUNG FU requires no strength or extraordinary skills, in fact, KUNG FU's brilliant defense never requires strength, size or undo exertion.

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### KUNG FU IS BETTER THAN OTHER FORMS OF SELF DEFENSE

KUNG FU is better than all other forms of self defense! Its secret lies in its simplicity and in its ability to overcome an attacker WITHOUT INTRICATE BODY CONTACT. Now, if you can read or look at pictures then you should be able

\*We do not claim that physically handicapped or other disadvantaged persons can perform these feats. Nor are these techniques claimed to be effective against anyone armed with a loaded gun.

to master the theory of this "flick-of-the-wrist" technique. YOU CAN WIN... EVEN IF YOUR OPPONENT IS BIGGER AND STRONGER THAN YOU. You can win if your attacker surprises you. And more—KUNG FU means deadly, often crippling self defense where every part of your body is a fearful weapon. Your feet, your hands, your elbows, your fingers become lethal weapons WITHOUT REQUIRING SUPER MUSCLE-POWER OR BRUTE FORCE. And you can do all this without years of training, special exercises, and especially hundreds of dollars in cost.

### WHAT KUNG FU WILL MEAN TO YOU

With so many crimes of violence about us you could be in danger—anytime—of being hurt or worse humiliated! BUT NOW YOU CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. You can protect yourself, your family and your property with deadly efficiency in mere seconds. Yes, and you can do it without years of training, hundreds of dollars in cost, and without long, painful practice. Regardless of size, strength or build you can beat the bullies and better the odds. Thanks to KUNG FU you need never be afraid again. You too can learn to overcome the fear of being shamed. You too can be the one that gives the beating! You too can control threatening, dangerous situations.

### WHY KUNG FU MAKES ALL THIS POSSIBLE

Why? Because KUNG FU is as deadly as it is simple. And it works for anyone.\* Other forms of self defense like Judo or Karate require something special such as strength, speed, etc... to say nothing of endless practice. A Judo Black Belt Master,

for example, must practice technique after technique... and take years to master it all. NOT SO WITH KUNG FU! It's based on an entirely different concept. Technique and form aren't very important. DEFENSE IS! KUNG FU is designed to help you defend yourself in most situations\* with an absolute minimum in effort and a maximum in protection.

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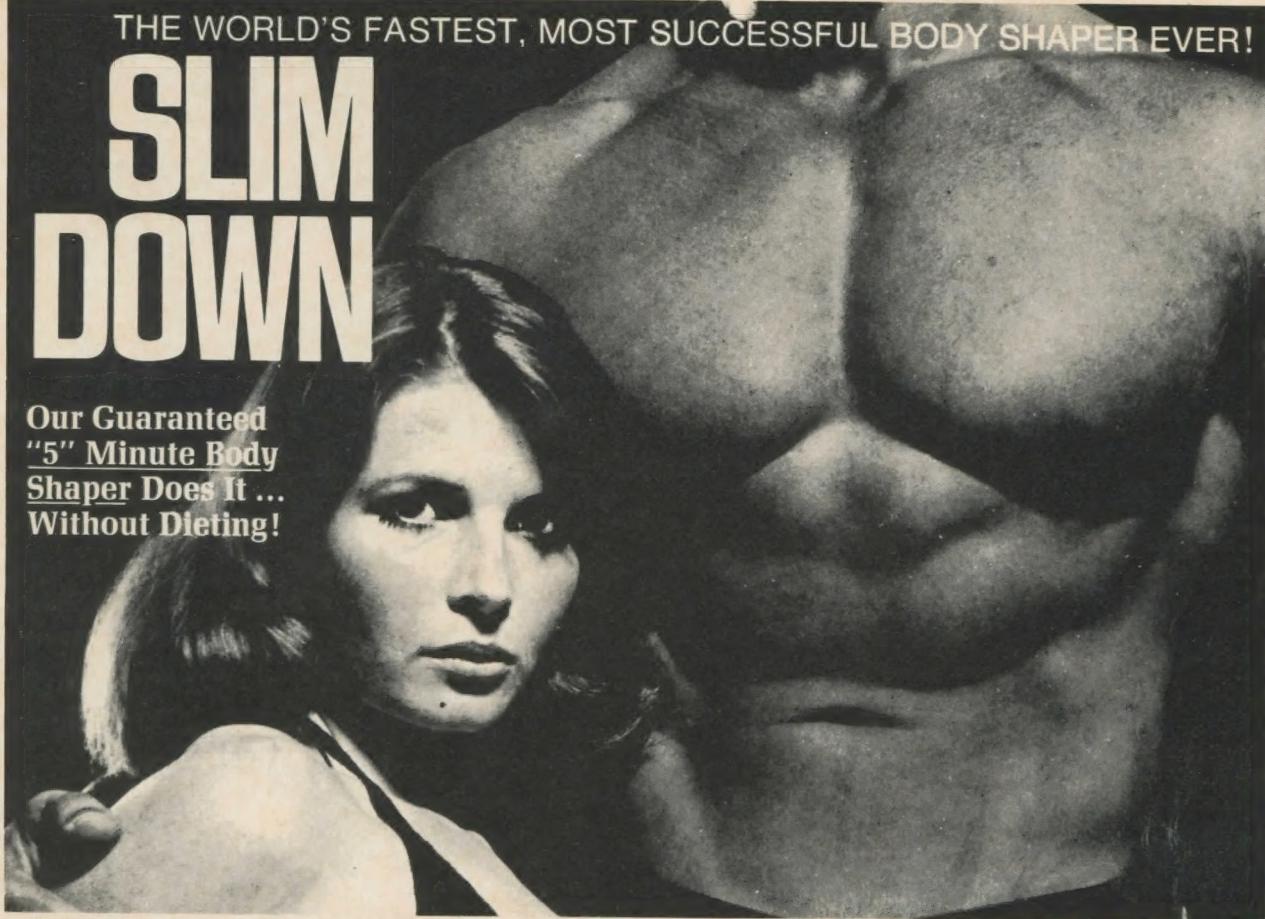
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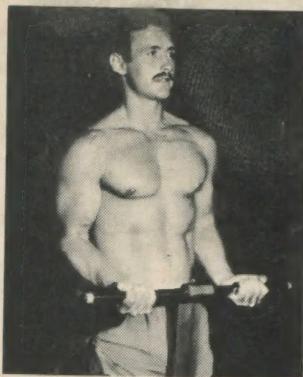
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1. Several experts conducted a scientific experiment. It showed that the average peak strength improvement after only eight weeks, for each type of exercise, was:

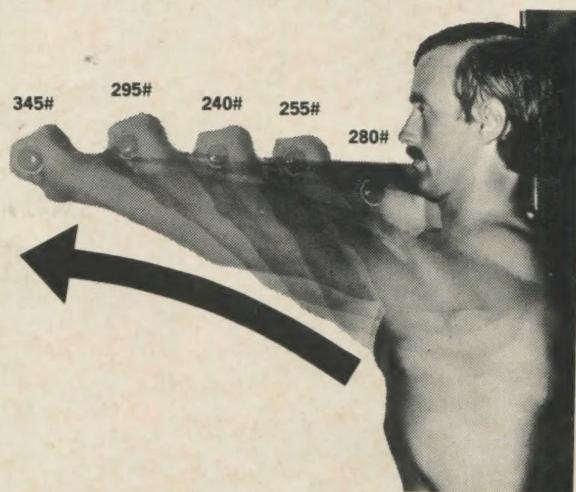
Isokinetics	47.2%
Weight Lifting	28.6%
Isometrics	12.1%

2. One group of researchers stated that all published research matching isokinetics with weight lifting and isometrics showed that isokinetics is greatly superior for muscle building.

3. The coach of a U.S. multi-gold medal winner in 1972 Olympic swimming claims that strength improves faster with isokinetics than with any

other method.

4. Many of the professional football teams (colleges and high schools too) are now using isokinetics, and others are quickly following.
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Please rush me my Powerex isokinetic exerciser and wall chart of exercises. I enclose  check or  money order for \$11.95 plus \$2 shipping and handling (total \$13.95). No COD's. (California residents please add 60¢ sales tax.) I understand that, for any reason whatsoever, I may return my Powerex and chart within 14 days of receipt for a full refund of my money...no questions asked.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

My height is \_\_\_\_\_ feet \_\_\_\_\_ inches.